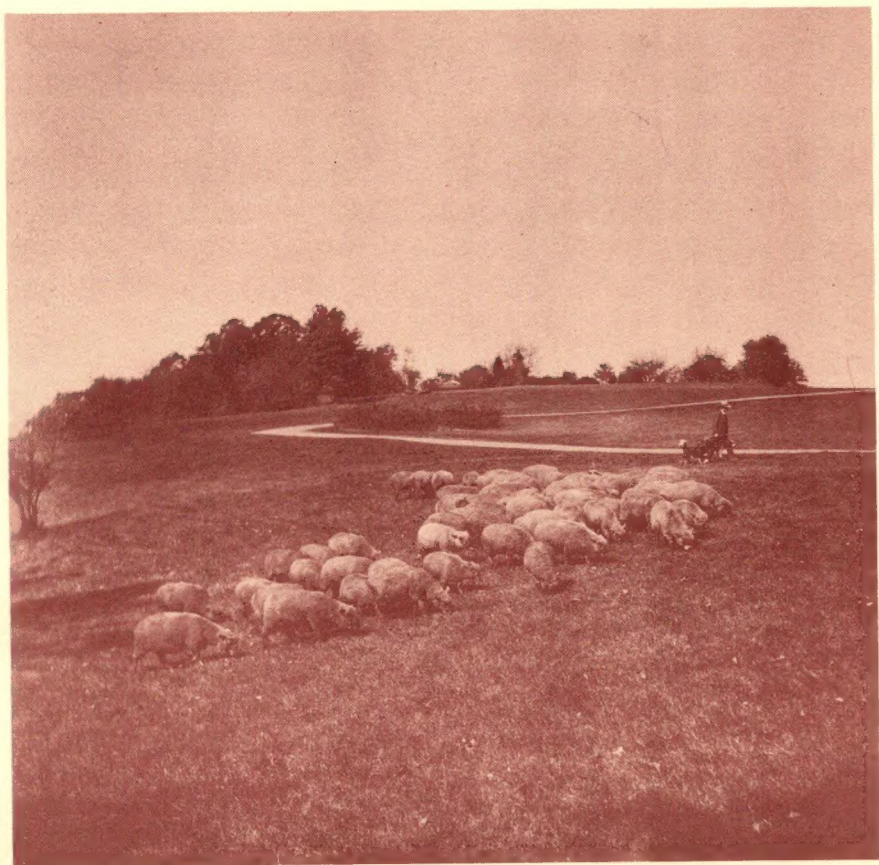


Spring, 1973

page 25

# *The Picket Post*

*A Record of Patriotism*



*Issued quarterly by*

VALLEY FORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Valley Forge, Pennsylvania



# THE PICKET POST

*Published by*  
VALLEY FORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Spring, 1973



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## THE PICKET POST

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"And here, in this place of sacrifice,  
in this vale of humiliation,  
in this valley of the shadow of death,  
out of which the life of America rose,  
regenerate and free, let us believe  
with an abiding faith, that to them  
union will seem as dear and liberty  
as sweet and progress as glorious as  
they were to our fathers and are to you  
and me, and that the institutions which  
have made us happy, preserved by the  
virtue of our children, shall bless  
the remotest generations of the time  
to come."

HENRY ARMITT BROWN  
at Valley Forge, June 19, 1878

Spring, 1973

## EDITORIAL

Young people receive more criticism than commendation these days. So I want to call attention to a group who met in Sharon, Connecticut in 1960 and did some serious thinking. They called themselves Young Americans for Freedom and they adopted the following statement:

### THE SHARON STATEMENT

IN THIS TIME of moral and political crisis, it is the responsibility of the youth of America to affirm certain eternal truths. WE, as young conservatives, believe:

That foremost among the transcendent values is the individual's use of his God-given free will, whence derives his right to be free from the restrictions of arbitrary force;

That liberty is indivisible, and that political freedom cannot long exist without economic freedom;

That the purposes of government are to protect these freedoms through the preservation of internal order, the provision of national defense, and the administration of justice;

That when government ventures beyond these rightful functions, it accumulates power which tends to diminish order and liberty;

That the Constitution of the United States is the best arrangement yet devised for empowering government to fulfill its proper role, while restraining it from the concentration and abuse of power;

That the genius of the Constitution—the divisions of powers—is summed up in the clause which reserves primacy to the several states, or to the people, in those spheres not specifically delegated to the Federal government.

That the market economy, allocating resources by the free play of supply and demand, is the single economic system compatible with the requirements of personal freedom and constitutional government, and that it is at the same time the most productive supplier of human needs;

That when government interferes with the work of the market economy, it tends to reduce the moral and physical strength of the nation; that when it takes from one man to bestow on another, it diminishes the incentive of the first, the integrity of the second, and the moral autonomy of both;

That we will be free only so long as the national sovereignty of the

*(Continued on page 15)*

## THE ROLE OF DELAWARE IN THE REVOLUTION

An Address on the 50th Anniversary of Delaware State Sunday.

by DR. E. BERKELY TOMPKINS

*Director of Historical and Cultural Affairs, State of Delaware*

It is a great pleasure and honor to be with you today for the fiftieth observance of Delaware State Sunday. Being gathered at the most notable site of the American Revolution, it is fitting that we should on this occasion consider the important role which the State of Delaware played in the War for Independence.

As Thomas Rodney wrote to his son, Caesar, in 1804—"no State in the union exerted itself more than Delaware and the citizens of none did so much in proportion to the number of inhabitants."

The Delaware Regiment and other famous fighting units under Colonels John Haslet, David Hall, Allan McLane, and Major Robert Kirkwood, steadfastly represented our colony in battle for the entire seven years from 1776 to 1783. Delawareans fought courageously with Washington in all of his important northern battles: at Long Island, White Plains, Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth. In the South, they served with Generals Gates and Greene at Camden, Kings Mountain, Cowpens, Guilford Court House, Eutaw Springs, and finally at Yorktown. Colonel Henry Lee of Virginia praised the Delaware troops highly, stating that no regiment in the Continental Army surpassed the Delaware contingent in soldiership.

Although Delaware contributed greatly to the Revolutionary cause, only one battle was fought on our soil. The stage was set for the engagement when on August 25, 1777, Lord Howe, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, landed with his force of 16,000 troops, plus artillery, at Elk Neck, Maryland. By September 2, Howe had established his headquarters at Aiken's Tavern near Glasgow, Delaware.

Upon hearing the news of Lord Howe's landing, General Washington and his army of 11,000 men proceeded rapidly from Neshaminy, Pennsylvania, through Chester to Wilmington. On August 26, Generals Washington, Greene, and Lafayette rode to Iron Hill from which they attempted to map Howe's encampment. Failing to do this, Washington dispatched two generals to keep particular watch on the British. General Maxwell and his men were to stay near the enemy and provide as much annoyance as possible. Caesar Rodney and his Kent County militia of 400 men were also to harass the enemy, but their primary mission was to protect Noxon's Mill in southern New Castle County.

Rodney's assignment, however, proved unnecessary. On September 3rd, Washington's light advanced corps under General Maxwell engaged in a sharp skirmish with the enemy near Cooch's Bridge and along the road between Glasgow and the Welsh Tract Meeting House; a cannon ball went through the wall of the Meeting House, and three pieces of British artillery forced the Americans to retreat. The British moved north and stationed themselves on Iron Hill, and Lord Cornwallis took Cooch's Mill where he remained for five days until September 8th.

Washington and his men had no intention of allowing Lord Howe's army to reach Stanton where they could begin marching directly to Philadelphia via the King's Road. The Americans, to defend this strategic highway, entrenched themselves on the east bank of the Red Clay Creek, and it is reported that across from the Hale-Byrnes House, which is now part of the

State museum system, "the cannon were placed on a rise of ground as thick as they could stand." Generals Washington, Lafayette, Anthony Wayne, and Nathaniel Greene met at the Hale-Byrnes House on September 6th; but Stanton was not to be the site of a major confrontation with General Howe. The British moved north instead, through Newark and Hockessin, forcing the Americans to get to the Brandywine before they were completely cut off from Philadelphia. The two armies finally met in a major battle at Chadd's Ford on September 11th; and after an entire day of bitter fighting, the Americans fell back to Chester.

Although the skirmish at Cooch's Bridge was overshadowed by the magnitude of the Battle of Brandywine which followed so closely afterward, this encounter is still quite notable. Caesar Rodney and the Delaware militia provided able assistance to Washington while he was in Delaware, and our State has the distinction of being the first in which the Stars and Stripes were flown in battle. (Congress had adopted the flag June 14, 1777; and the engagement of Cooch's Bridge was the first "battle" to follow this enactment.)

The real significance of Delaware's role in the Revolution, however, is indicated by the contributions made outside the State of Delaware by Delawareans. For example, while Caesar Rodney and John Dickinson both served with the local militia, they are best known for their statesmanship before and during the war.

Caesar Rodney represented the three lower counties at the Stamp Act Congress in October, 1765. He participated in the composition by that body of an address to the King, and a petition to the House of Commons remonstrating against the Stamp Act and setting forth in thirteen declarations the American theory of the constitutional relationship of the colonies to the mother country. At the first Continental Congress he assisted in drawing up the plan which prohibited the importation of British products into the colonies and the exportation of American products to Great Britain. He was present in Philadelphia in June of 1776 to support the revolutionary movement and then made his famous and dramatic ride to approve the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

Rodney's compatriot, John Dickinson, won for himself the title "Penman of the Revolution." He prepared *The Declaration of Rights* adopted by the Stamp Act Congress in October, 1765; published his famous pamphlets, "Letters From A Farmer in Pennsylvania" and "A Song For American Freedom" in 1768; was the principal author of the "Declaration Setting Forth the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms"; and was responsible for drafting the Articles of Confederation in 1777.

In addition to providing such able statesmen whose skillful leadership greatly aided the colonies in their valiant struggle for independence, Delaware supplied several military units whose contribution to the American cause was outstanding. The first Delaware Regiment was organized by Colonel John Haslet of Dover in 1776. It was this famous regiment which on July 4th, 1776, while moving north to join Washington's army in New Jersey, stopped in New Castle and, as is recorded in a lively contemporary report, "took out of the Court House all the insignia of monarchy—all the baubles of royalty, and made a pile of them before the Court House, set fire to them and burnt them to ashes." And they added: "A merry day we made of it."

Colonel Haslet and his men distinguished themselves at the battles of Long Island and White Plains, in the strategic retreat across New Jersey, and in the surprise attack on Trenton, on December 24, 1776. By the end of 1776, however, Haslet's Delaware contingent was decimated by casualties and the termination of enlistments. Haslet himself fell on January 3rd, 1777, while gallantly trying to rally a group of men at the Battle of Princeton; and his body is interred in the churchyard of the Presbyterian Church in



Dover, now part of the Delaware State Museum.

Thomas Rodney and a special group of Delaware militiamen also won glory on the battlefield at Princeton. After the withdrawal to Morristown, Washington appointed Rodney and the Delaware militia as his personal guard because they had so distinguished themselves in the preceding battle.

In September, 1776, Colonel David Hall of Lewes, a former captain of Haslet's third company, began to organize a new Delaware Regiment. His unit replaced Haslet's and fought fiercely at the Battle of the Brandywine and at Germantown where Hall was wounded. After wintering in Wilmington in 1778, the Delaware troops took a very active part in the Battle of Monmouth, their last major encounter before they were ordered to join General Horatio Gates in the southern department in 1780.

It was in the South that the Delaware Regiment truly distinguished itself. It fought valiantly at Camden, South Carolina, and again under the able leadership of Major Robert Kirkwood at Cowpens, King's Mountain, Guilford Court House, and Eutaw Springs. Lighthorse Harry Lee praised Kirkwood as one of the great unsung heroes of the Revolution. A typical citizen-soldier, he was born on a farm adjacent to the Old White Clay Creek Presbyterian Church near Newark. He left his civilian pursuits to become a lieutenant in Haslet's regiment and fought with distinction in the New Jersey campaign. In the South, he assumed charge of the Delaware regiment after the capture of Vaughn and Patten at Camden. Generals Gates and Greene, as well as Lee, testified to his extraordinary courage and efficiency as a soldier and extolled his contribution to the revolutionary cause.

The illustrious Colonel Allen McLane headed another of Delaware's famous military units. In 1775, he was commissioned a lieutenant in Caesar Rodney's Delaware militia. The following year he joined Washington's army and won a commission from the General himself. He then returned to Duck Creek Cross Roads and recruited sixty-eight men who served as a "Partisan Company" until 1779.

McLane and his men were famous for their daring exploits. The company, which eventually included fifty Oneida Indians, scouted, and harassed the enemy with notable success during Washington's memorable winter here at Valley Forge. McLane himself saved General Lafayette from a British attempt to kidnap him. McLane's feats of courage and resourcefulness contributed greatly to the revolutionary cause, and Washington praised him highly, saying that "he would not do without McLane in the Light Corps—no—not for £1000."

Perhaps the most unique contribution of a Delawarean to the success of the Revolution was made by James Tilton. In 1775, Tilton left a flourishing medical practice in Dover to accept a commission as a First Lieutenant in a light infantry company of the Kent County Militia. He then became surgeon for Delaware's Continental Regiment and was with Haslet's men until they disbanded. In 1776, Tilton was made a surgeon in the Continental medical corps and served throughout the duration of the War.

The overcrowding, lack of supplies, poor sanitation, and lack of provision for quarantine which he discovered in army hospitals horrified Tilton. In order to prevent epidemics, this inventive Delawarean built a new type of hospital, with earthen floors, increased ventilation, separate operating rooms, and quarantined areas that were designed to combat the spread of illness. His hospital and his enforcement of strict regulations immediately substantially decreased the death rate among American soldiers.

In 1780, Tilton served with the "flying hospital" which followed American troops in the Hudson River region; and the doctor was one of six senior surgeons whom Washington personally recommended to Congress for special commendation. Tilton concluded his distinguished service in the final

victorious campaign at Yorktown. His inventiveness, resourcefulness, and dedication were typical of the efforts made by so many Delawareans in behalf of the American cause.

Throughout the revolutionary era, the role of Delaware's soldiers and statesmen was indeed an important one; and as the bicentennial approaches, we can look back with pride to their very valuable contribution to winning the nation's independence.



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## IN MEMORIAM



DR. JOHN L. SPANGLER

Dr. John L. Spangler, physician in Devon for more than fifty years, died suddenly at home in Haverford on February fifth. The doctor had survived a previous heart attack. He will be missed in many places and by many devoted friends.

Prior to his retirement in 1968 Dr. Spangler had practiced medicine with offices in his home at Devon Boulevard and Berkley Road, Devon for half a century. He was a member of the staff of Bryn Mawr Hospital for over forty years and was appointed physician to the hospital, Service of General Practice, Department of Medicine in 1963.

He was former president of the Main Line Branch of the Montgomery County Medical Society, a member of the Chester County Medical Society, the American Medical Association, and the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. He was also active in civic affairs and served on the Easttown Township School Board for thirty-six years.

A General Practitioner of note, Dr. Spangler's patients came from all towns of the Main Line. Everyone knew him and spoke highly of him. He was a very busy doctor and was regarded with great affection.

We of the Valley Forge Historical Society have had the pleasure of his company often since his retirement. Dr. Spangler, with his lovely wife "Mollie", have graced the important functions of our Society and helped us in many, many ways. We are indebted to both of them.

In tribute to Dr. Spangler, Old St. David's Church was crowded for the Service on February eighth. The Rev. Richard Hess officiated. Dr. Joseph Nicholson expressed the appreciation of fellow physicians and patients for the dedicated service of Dr. Spangler, mentioning his integrity and the careful, sympathetic attention given to each patient.

Following the Service the good doctor was laid to rest in lovely Old St. David's Churchyard in the presence of his family and close friends. He was a physician of the highest rank and we will always honor his memory. A good physician is "the flower of our civilization".

Dr. Spangler is survived by his wife, the former Mary Ellen Fink; a son, John L. Jr., of Haddonfield, N. J.; three daughters, Mrs. Lionel S. Frank, of Hopewell Junction, N. Y.; Mrs. Henry W. Edgell, of Manchester, N. H., and Mrs. Richard P. Porter, of New York City; seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. C. T. Hodgson, of York. To them we extend our sincere sympathy.

Contributions in Dr. Spangler's memory may be sent to the Bryn Mawr Hospital.

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## THE CHESTERBROOK CONSERVANCY

The Chesterbrook Conservancy was formed in January by a group of people who are vitally concerned with saving a tract of land known as Chesterbrook. It consists of 865 acres of unspoiled land, adjacent to Valley Forge State Park, twenty miles from Philadelphia. Our goal is to have this land set aside as open space, and to preserve the historic sites which lie within its boundaries.

### HISTORY

Valley Forge was chosen as the site of Washington's encampment in 1777 because of its strategic location. It is bounded by a mountain and the Schuylkill River and the Great Valley. The Great Valley provided a view of the approaching British armies. Chesterbrook lies in this Great Valley, and contains three historic sites important to the encampment.

The Duportail house was occupied by the French engineer on Washington's staff who planned the defenses of Valley Forge. Duportail's map was found in the attic early in the 1900's and is the basis of restoration work done thus far at Valley Forge.

The Lee-Bradford House was occupied during the encampment by Col. William Bradford, Deputy Muster Master General, and by Maj. Gen. Charles Lee, second in command to Washington.

The Duportail and Lee-Bradford houses are both listed on the National Register of Historic Sites.

The Davis House was owned by Capt. Davis of the 9th Pennsylvania Regiment at Valley Forge, and used as a picket post during the encampment. The barn was used to shelter horses of Washington's Army.

### TODAY

The urgency of our appeal stems from the threat of the development of Chesterbrook by the Fox Companies of Jenkintown, Pennsylvania. They are in the process of acquiring the land for a high density development. This would include 3770 dwelling units, an office complex, motel, shopping center, etc. This would mean at least 10,000 residents and 15,000 in the office and shopping areas.

The park is under extreme pressure from existing industrial and housing development, and barely able to handle the present influx of people and traffic during critical periods.

The development would encroach upon each historic site within 250 feet.

The Conservancy has obtained \$43,000 in pledges to date. We feel this concrete expression of intent will serve as a catalyst to attract federal, state and/or foundation funds for land acquisition. We invite you to join us in this important effort. If you wish to make a pledge or want any other information, please write to The Chesterbrook Conservancy, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, 19481.



## OPEN HOUSE TOUR

The Gloucester County Historical Society, (Woodbury, N. J.) has arranged an interesting Open House Tour on Saturday, May 19th between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Twenty historic homes, churches, etc., will be open. Also we can witness the fine art of glass-blowing. Contact Mrs. Henry Reuter, Jr., at the Society at 58 North Broad Street, P.O. Box 409, Woodbury, N. J. 08096.



## TRAGIC SWORD

Biography of Brigadier General Francis Nash of North Carolina  
1742-1777

by JOHN F. REED

(Reprinted by permission from the Historical Society of Montgomery County *Bulletin*.)

### PREFACE

One of the too faintly remembered heroes of the American Revolution is Brigadier General Francis Nash of North Carolina. His memory should be especially keen not only in his home state, but also in southeastern Pennsylvania, where he died a battle-hero's death, and where he still "rests in honored glory."

The as yet peaceful (though the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike and a growing industrial park are not far distant) Towamencin Mennonite Meeting graveyard, at the corner of the Sunnyside Pike and the Forty Foot Road, a mile northwest of Kulpsville, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, is the scene of his resting place. The site is marked with double monuments: that placed at his grave in 1844 by the citizens of Germantown at the instigation of the historian, John Fanning Watson; the other of more recent (1936) vintage, erected by "the people of the community."

Unfortunately original research material concerning General Nash is rather sparse. The only well-documented accounts regarding him concern only the closing months of his life, and his death. That early death, at the age of 35, undoubtedly curtailed the amount of original material available. Also, much of the material that may have once existed has perished, as have many Southern historical papers, because of climate, long neglect, and especially because of the tragic political and military events of 1861-1865, when many papers were lost by fire or by wanton destruction. Even many dates pertinent to General Nash's early life are either wholly unrecorded or only semi-recorded. As far as the first two decades of his life are concerned, only secondary sources appear available.

For research into Nash's early life the present author is indebted to the Hon. A. M. Waddell, a direct descendant of General Nash's daughter Sarah and her rice planter husband John Waddell of the lower Cape Fear River area, for his address at the dedication of the Nash monument at the Guilford Battleground in 1906; and to the newspaper publications of Frank Nash, a collateral descendant of the General, in the *Charlotte Observer*, and of Gertrude S. Carraway in the *Greensboro Daily News*, both North Carolina newspapers. Without their research done several decades ago, some of which undoubtedly includes Nash family traditions, information concerning General Nash's youth would at present be exceedingly difficult to discover. Unless new and as yet undiscovered material is unearthed, the present biography, incomplete as it is at least in its early pages, may probably have to be considered as definitive as possible.

Unfortunately, there is no known extant portrait of General Nash, if one ever existed, nor even a known real physical description of him. The sole located direct description of the general is that of his friend and military companion, Colonel Thomas Polk of North Carolina, who stated that Nash had "the finest leg that was ever hung on a man," which description is of little assistance in conceiving a picture of the whole man. Nevertheless, Nash was said to have been handsome and gentlemanly, and made a fine appearance mounted on his horse.

The author is indebted for the use of original Nash material to the

University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill, The North Carolina State Archives at Raleigh, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, The New York Public Library at New York City, and the Haverford College Library at Haverford, Pa. Thanks are also due to Michael G. Martin Jr., of the UNC Library for his interest; to George F. Scheer, historian, of Chapel Hill, for his suggestions as to the location of Nash material; and to Brigadier General Francis Nash for the life he lived and the sacrifices he made for human freedom.

### I: THE OPENING YEARS

During the latter part of the 17th and the first half of the 18th centuries Wales was the source of considerable immigration into the British North American Colonies. Some time between 1725 and 1730 the Nash brothers, John, the father of Brigadier General Francis Nash, and Thomas, Gentlemen, of Tenby, Pembrokeshire, South Wales became a part of this migration of the descendants of the ancient Britons to the New World. John Nash was accompanied by his wife Anna, daughter of Sir Hugh Owen of Tenby.

Whether or not Tenby, which faces the Bristol Channel from the south shore of a peninsula protruding west into the Irish Sea, was their real (though of course it was their initial) point of departure for America cannot be determined. Probably not, since the tide of emigration generally rolled westward from the British Isles through larger ports of exit.

Although most Welshmen who preceded the Nashes to America had chosen Pennsylvania, Quaker William Penn's "Holy Experiment," as the objective of their emigration, the Nash brothers, for no specific reasons known to history, chose Virginia. Religion may have had some bearing on the decision. Unlike the Pennsylvania-Welsh immigrants in general, the Nashes were not Quakers, though of course non-Quakers were welcomed to Pennsylvania. Virginia, on the other hand, was predominantly Church of England, the state religion in the Home Country. The Nash's religious affiliations lay with that Church.

The Nash brothers first settled in that part of Henrico County, near Richmond, which still retains that county name. Henrico was one of the four original Virginia "incorporations" or shires devised by Governor Samuel Argall in 1617, excluding the Eastern Shore of Chesapeake Bay, which never attained incorporation status. The other shires were James City, Charles City and Kikotan. The last was later renamed Prince Charles for the unfortunate royal Stuart scion who became Charles I of England and who subsequently lost his head on the block during the Cromwellian revolt. Originally both Henrico and Charles City, being the westernmost shires, extended indefinitely into the upland wilderness beyond the Virginia Piedmont.<sup>1</sup>

By the time the Nash brothers arrived in Virginia, Henrico and the other shires were no longer designated as "incorporations," but as counties. The four original incorporations had already begun to be broken up into lesser segments for the convenience and better governing of an increasing population. These new divisions were also designated as countries.

The brothers' residence in Henrico County was reasonably fortunate for John Nash, who commenced to wax in his estate but was otherwise for Thomas, the latter dying "without issue" in 1737. Inasmuch as the records thus specifically stated Thomas's failure at paternity, it may be assumed that he married, but whom, when or where is not elucidated. Possibly his wife, as John's, was Welsh-born and had also accompanied the brothers to America. However, Thomas Nash, since he died a half-decade before Francis Nash was born, is only pertinent to his nephew's history insofar as he accompanied Francis' parents to and settled with them in the



New World.

John Nash, who was described as "a man of decided culture and intelligence," was, during his initial residence in Virginia, "a member of the Henrico County Court," though in what capacity is not stated.<sup>2</sup> Possibly, therefore, he had received some legal education and, as would be the profession of two of his sons, may have been a licensed attorney. He was also for a time county sheriff, and was a co-founder of St. John's Episcopal Church in Richmond.

Prior to 1738 (the Hon. A. M. Waddell categorically stated that it was as early as 1732) Nash, his wife, and an unspecified number of their children, moved west to what had already or was about to become Amelia County, the status depending on the year of their settlement there. Amelia was originally a part of old Charles City County, and later, until 1735, a part of Prince George County that had been formed from Charles City in 1703. The elder Nash had purchased an estate of 5,000 acres "more or less" between the forks of the Appomattox and Bush Rivers, some four miles east of the present Farmville and fifty miles southwest of Richmond. John Nash named his new estate Templeton Manor, after a town, Templeton, near his former home in Wales. What special association he had with Templeton, rather than with his home town, cannot be ascertained. Perhaps he merely liked the name.

Almost immediately Nash became "prominent in the political, religious and social affairs" of Amelia County.<sup>3</sup> He early was elected presiding Justice of the county, reputedly attending court sessions in regal state in a handsome coach-and-four. In 1738 he was elected a member of the House of Burgesses, the governing elective body of the Colony under the Governor and Royal Council. John Nash conscientiously attended the sessions of the Burgesses at the Colonial capital at Williamsburg, riding the nearly hundred miles from home in equal state with his attendance at court. His principal vocation, however, was that of an increasingly wealthy, slave-owning Virginia country squire and planter.

John and Anna Nash's progeny was rightly described as "large," since four sons and an equal number of daughters are recorded. The eldest son, Thomas, was undoubtedly born prior to the family's removal to Amelia County. Undoubtedly this was also true of some of their other sons and daughters. The second son was named for his father. A third was named Abner, and the youngest, the subject of the present biography, was christened Francis. The daughters' names cannot be ascertained. The birth dates of these brothers and sisters are unknown, with perhaps the exception of that of Francis.

The four Nash sons, on attaining manhood, would prove the family talents to the public. Thomas, known as "Colonel," though there is no official record of his military services which, like his father's, may have been with the militia in the French and Indian War, would when grown move to neighboring Lunenburg County and represent that county in the House of Burgesses. He later moved to Edenton, North Carolina, and became locally prominent there until his death in 1769. His wife was the former Mary Reed, by whom he had an only child, Anna Owen Nash, named for her grandmother.

John Junior, the only son to remain permanently in Virginia, likewise attained the rank of colonel, but in the Virginia Militia during the Revolution. In 1778 he represented Prince Edward County, formerly a part of Amelia County, in the State Legislature, and after the Revolution was a founder and trustee of the famous Hampden-Sydney Institute in his home county. As the only Nash son retaining residence in Virginia, at his father's death he inherited Templeton Manor. John Junior died in 1803.

Abner, the third son, after moving to New Bern, the Colonial capital

of North Carolina, established himself in a distinguished political and legal career. Educated for the bar in that Colony, he became a profound Patriot during the Revolution. He was elected a member of the Revolutionary Provincial Congress from 1774 to 1776, and in the latter year served on the committee appointed by that Congress to draft the state constitution. He was first speaker of the North Carolina Legislature under that constitution, and in 1779 succeeded Governor Richard Caswell as the second republican, as distinguished from Colonial, governor of the state, serving in that capacity until 1781. From 1782 to 1785 he was again a member of the State Assembly, and at the same time, served as a delegate to the Continental Congress at Philadelphia and New York City. He died on December 2, 1786 in New York while serving as a Member of Congress, and was taken home to New Bern for burial, being much mourned since "greatly respected for his public and private virtues."<sup>4</sup> By his wife he fathered Frederick Nash, a future Chief Justice of the North Carolina State Supreme Court.

So much for Francis Nash's three elder brothers, since it is Francis Nash, not they, who is the principal subject of the present biography.

Francis Nash was born at Templeton Manor, Amelia County, Virginia, probably in 1742, though the year date is not totally certain. The month and day are unrecorded. The only available record of his youthful years until he attained his majority is that of his father. Besides John Nash Senior's previously described history, the elder Nash also served briefly as a militia colonel against the Indians who threatened the Virginia frontier in 1752, and again in 1756 for the same purpose during the French and Indian War. He continued his local and provincial political prominence until his death in 1776.

Francis Nash's youth, therefore, since personally unrecorded, was probably uneventful except in forming the man and soldier he became. Concerning his primary education, all that can be noted is that it was probably the best available at that time in the rural surroundings of Templeton Manor, unless he was more formally schooled elsewhere. That he received a reasonably good primary education can be deduced from his subsequent history.

Francis Nash is generally recorded as a native of Prince Edward County, though that county was not formed from Amelia County until 1754 when young Nash was probably twelve years old. Only his youth was spent in that area. Prior to leaving home permanently, however, and having determined on a legal career, Nash completed his studies, though the source of his legal education is unknown. He probably read law in the office of a local attorney. In Colonial days, and long afterward, a college education was not required for legal licensing; only an affirmation from an already licensed attorney that the applicant had "read" (*i.e.*, studied) law with that attorney and had become proficient enough in his studies to warrant licensing. Only a meager bar examination, and frequently none, was required in the back country.

On attaining his majority, Nash followed his brothers, Thomas and Abner, to North Carolina, though settling at Hillsboro, in the north-central part of the Colony, rather than near his relatives. Hillsboro, since at that time unrivaled by other towns in that vicinity, was of considerable prominence in Colonial days as the county seat of Orange County. It has since lost much of its local importance to more populated neighboring towns of later date, notably Durham, Burlington and Greensboro.

By 1763 Nash was clerk of the Superior Court of Orange County, as witnessed by his docket dated in November of that year on an indenture between a certain John Armstrong and Henry Eustace McCulloh for property at the Trading Path Ford on the Haw River. Nash, signing his full name as court clerk (his later signatures were simplified to a brief "N. Nash"), noted that the Armstrong-McCulloh deed had been "Duly Prov'd . . . and

ordered to be Registd." at the November sitting of the Superior Court. This deed is probably the earliest known extant direct record concerning Francis Nash.<sup>5</sup>

Nash's Superior Court clerkship was of short duration, though he was subsequently appointed clerk of the County Inferior Court, an office he retained a number of years. This position, plus his private practice, must have kept him reasonably occupied, since his clerical duties still permitted him time to become locally known as an able, conscientious lawyer. He also, between the time of his arrival in North Carolina and the Revolution, represented Orange County a number of times in the Colonial Assembly at New Bern, the coastal capital of the Colony.

Nevertheless, despite his waxing reputation, by 1768 Nash was in trouble. As clerk of the Inferior Court at Hillsboro, and thereby a Crown officer, he was accused, with other county officers in similar positions, of extorting illegal fees from certain court procedures. Actually the disturbance, for such it was, was basically an attack on the corrupt government of and the burdensome taxes imposed by Governor William Tryon and local county officials. Many of these local officers were blatantly corrupt, and Nash, in popular fancy, was included among these dishonest gentry without any investigation of the facts. Corruption had become a "way of life" in local government as a means of acquiring illicit personal fortunes. Occasionally minor riots broke out, particularly at Hillsboro, and officials of all ranks were brutally assaulted and their possessions destroyed. Governor Tryon's attention might only be attracted by attacking the ladder of officialdom beginning at the bottom, and only he could bring about reform.

Nash immediately defended himself by publicizing a personal letter in which he vigorously denied receiving any fees other than those legally sanctioned by the Inferior Court. Nash expressed his willingness to submit the accusation and his defense to the next session of the Superior Court for adjudication, and personally guaranteed, if that Court's decision proved unfavorable to him, to refund all illegal fees he had unwittingly received. Apparently Nash was exonerated both in law and in the public mind without the formality of a hearing, since no record of any further action, indictment or bond appeared in the ensuing Superior Court records. Nevertheless, the disturbances that would culminate in the so-called Regulator War of 1771 had begun.

## II: THE REGULATOR WAR

By 1771 Governor Tryon, though cognizant that corruption in government threatened a major eruption among the back-country citizenry, first attempted to ward off the eruption by instituting minor reforms, then, this policy failing to satisfy the dissidents, endeavored to suppress the discontent through stern countermeasures. These dissidents called themselves Regulators, a term derived from popular desire for a revision or regulation of the causes of their grievances and an end to public corruption. Tryon's sudden arrest of Regulator leaders Hermon Husband, William Butler and two others only aroused more active disturbances. The Orange County Regulators rapidly assembled and marched on Hillsboro to force liberation of the captives. Tryon's show of militia force, however, induced the Regulators to disperse. Although the trial of the Regulator leaders was thereby permitted to proceed, Husband was acquitted and his accomplices only received slight fines and token imprisonments. They were then pardoned, and Tryon gained two years of tenuous peace.

At the end of this time the back-country people, increasingly exasperated by the Governor's continued callousness to their oppressed plight, again gathered, without the sanction of their leaders, in an uncontrollable mob and

*(Continued on page 38)*



## LETTER FROM A SOLDIER AT THE GULPH — DECEMBER, 1777

To his father, an ancestor of Elizabeth E. P. Kenworthy, to whom we are indebted.

Camp at the Gulph South side of the River  
Schuylkill 15 Mile from Philadelphia  
Dec. 18th, 1777

Honord Sir

I wrote you by Capt. McClary from White Marsh since that Dec. 5th the Enemy march'd out of the City to Attack us we were alarmed 2 o'clock in the morning and formed our Lines for Battle which extended near 5 miles the Enemy took Possession of some hights about two miles from us where they Viewd us for two Days but not thinking it Prudent to Attack us they Marched back again—some small Skirmishing took Place during their tarry with us but were of no great Consequence on either Side the 11th our Army had Orders to March at 4 o'clock in the Morning to Cross Schuylkill in order to look out for winter Quarters but the enemy having got round their before us prevented our Crossing we retired back that Night & Crossed the Next Day came to this Place where we still remain to keep thanksgiving—a worse Place there need not be. The enemy have Returned to Philadelphia after Plundering the inhabitants of every thing they have without any distinction to Whigg or Tory abusing and Hessioning some of the Females.

Tomorrow if it is fair weather suppose we shall March 6 miles further (as the rain has prevented us for two Days past) to the Valley Forge (a worse place than this by what I have heard) & there to build Cobb Houses to live in this Winter for there is no boards to be had in this Part of the Country to build Barracks & I fear the Consequence of our Hutting as they are Pleased to call it will be a sickly Army in the Spring for my own Part I shall prefer a tent to a Hutt—The Enemy has the Advantage of us in Quarters this winter greatly tho I suppose that How has or is nearly upon Capitulating with us, at Exeter for I never was so much deceived by Report as I was of Hows situation before I got here I thought that he was so entirely surrounded by our Troops that he could get no Provisions from any Quarter, but I found that he was able to make excursions into the Country three different ways which could not be avoided unless we had men enough to fight on every Quarter. I believe that we are able to fight his army on equal Ground at any time so that we are not afraid of Him.

Sir, I have had some thoughts of leaving the Army should be glad to have your Opinion of it. I have reasoned with myself in this way but have not drawn any Conclusion yet.

First while I am in the Service my Pay supports me, 2ly I may get some Experience in my business & a little more acquaintance with the World then if I was at Home, 3ly I am Serving my Country.

So much for Continuing in the Army, my objections against it is this, that I shall ruin my Constitution & shall have nothing more to begin the World when the War is over than I have now for I don't think I am so well off now as I was this time twelve month, then having what I lost in the Retreat from Rye.

There is a talk that Congress is about putting the Officers on the Establishment to draw half Pay when disbanded but I believe they will not do that.

We have many Reports that France will declare War against England by the spring I could wish it might be the Case but I rather fear it will be twenty or thirty thousand Hessians for America for if they come we shall

be Obligated to have another Campaign.

There is no prospect of my getting a furlow this winter besides the distance is so great that unless I could get one for three or four months it would not be worth having & then I ought to have a Horse load of Money to bare my Expenses.

I should be glad you would speak to Doct. Peabody to get me a Mate & appoint him & send him to the Army as soon as possible for I have been without any since the first of October the one that I had has got a Regiment.

If any Body should appear to buy my Horse I believe I had better have him sold then to keep him on expenses. He should fetch me 50£ as horses are sold here but I would have him sold for what you can get rather than to keep out at board. Young Bachellor or Mr. Jewett are as good Persons to sell him as any that I know.

Please to excuse Blots & blunders for I have a Continual Noise round me.

Your Dutiful Son

W. PARKER, JR.

Re. those things which mentioned in my last that I should send by Gen. Folsom he could not Carry & I have Concluded not to send them. If Capt. Rowell should arrive at Exeter before my Horse is sold I believe he would get as much from him as any Person.

Addressed: William Parker, Esq.

Exeter

New Hampshire



## EDITORIAL

*(Continued from page 3)*

United States is secure; that history shows periods of freedom are rare, and can exist only when free citizens concertedly defend their rights against all enemies;

That the forces of international communism are, at present, the greatest single threat to these liberties;

That the United States should stress victory over, rather than co-existence with, this menace; and

That American foreign policy must be judged by this criterion: Does it serve the just interests of the United States?

These young people are totally dedicated to the ideals of America's Founding Fathers and they have shown their dedication by sacrificing an incredible amount of personal time, energy and money—holding countless rallies, spending hours in intensive study, in dormitory rap sessions, working for conservative candidates, displaying and distributing millions of pieces of literature and participating in scores of patriotic events. By now hundreds of thousands of Young Americans for Freedom carry on their struggle for these ideals.

We hear campus morale and spirit are happier and more positive this year than last. It may be due in part to the dedicated work of Young Americans for Freedom trying to bring reason and calm to the American college scene.

If you are in sympathy with their ideals they would be happy to have you say so. They maintain an office at 1221 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C.



## WASHINGTON'S GENERALS AT VALLEY FORGE

by GERRY W. COX

Lee — Sullivan — Greene — DeKalb — St. Clair — Washington — Lafayette — Steuben — Duportail — Stirling — Knox.

McIntosh — Maxwell — Poor — Glover — Patterson — Wayne — Varnum — Woodford — Muhlenberg — Weedon — Scott — Learned — Huntington.

These are the generals of the Continental Army who served with Washington at Valley Forge. Visitors to the Washington Memorial Chapel may see these names, together with etchings of early flags and regimental colors, inscribed on the front of the pew screens—the Major Generals being on the west (Gospel) side and the Brigadier Generals on the east (Epistle) side. These, however, were not the only generals under Washington's command. There were many other high ranking officers, both in the North and in the South, whose names are not generally associated with Valley Forge—including: Gates, Lincoln, Arnold, Schuyler, Putnam, Montgomery, Moultrie, Stark, Mifflin, Clinton, Conway, Ward, Heath, Thomas, McDougal, Wooster, Howe and Parsons. NOTE: Clinton and Howe are not to be confused with Sir Henry Clinton and Sir William Howe—both British officers mentioned elsewhere in this article.

A number of these generals were born abroad; including: Gates, Lee, DeKalb, St. Clair, Lafayette, Von Steuben, Maxwell, Conway and DuPortail. The latter, a Frenchman, was Washington's engineer who was sent to Valley Forge early in the fall of 1777 to survey the grounds and draw up plans for the encampment of the Army during the Winter of 1777-1778.

Charles Lee was born in England in 1731. He entered the British Army when he was 11 years old. Lee was in the ill-fated Braddock expedition in 1755, (Washington was in the same expedition), was wounded at Ticonderoga in 1758 and emigrated to America in 1773 where he purchased an estate in Berkeley County, Va., and became an ardent Whig. In 1775 he was commissioned Major General in the Continental Army and took part in the defense of Charlestown, Massachusetts. In December 1776, he was taken prisoner at Basking Ridge, N. J., by the British under General Burgoyne. It is believed that, while in confinement, Lee made treasonable proposals to the enemy. (Ironically, Lee was subordinate to Burgoyne when both men were serving with the British Expeditionary Force in Portugal prior to the American Revolution). In 1778 Lee was released in an exchange of prisoners and fought, under Washington, at the Battle of Monmouth. It was there that Lee's in-subordination nearly lost the day for Washington. He was court-martialed and suspended from command for a year. Shortly afterward he was wounded in a duel with Colonel Laurens who challenged him for language disrespectful to Washington. Later he addressed a discourteous letter to Congress and was dismissed from the service. On the front pew at the Washington Memorial Chapel, a close scrutiny will show scratch marks over the Lee name—placed there by someone as a mark of improbity.

DeKalb was born in France. As an officer in the French Army, he was engaged to serve in the cause of the Americans and came over to this country and was, by Congress, made a Major General in the army under Washington. In New Jersey and Maryland, he was second in command under Gates. He led the Maryland and Delaware troops in the Battle of Camden (So. Car.). There he received eleven wounds and died shortly afterwards. His memory in this country is held in high honor. When the United States entered the



war in 1917, a number of German merchant ships were interred in our Atlantic ports. The Government impounded them at once and converted them into armed transports. These ships were re-commissioned and named after some of our Revolutionary War heroes. The U.S.S. George Washington; the U.S.S. DeKalb; the U.S.S. Von Steuben and the U.S.S. DeGrasse were among the finest ships in our Navy.

St. Clair was born in Thuro, Scotland in 1734 and joined the British army as an ensign. He came to America in 1758 and fought with the British, under Wolf, at Quebec. He resigned his commission in 1762 and held various civil offices until the start of the American Revolution when he joined the Colonial Army with the rank of Colonel. He fought gallantly at the battle of Three Rivers (Prov. of Quebec), Princeton and Trenton. In 1777 he was elevated to the rank of Major-General and placed in command at Ticonderoga. Here he was forced to surrender to the British under Burgoyne and, although acquitted of all blame by court-martial, his subsequent unpopularity lost him his command. Remaining in the army as a volunteer, he again rose to important positions and distinguished himself under Washington in the campaign which ended in the surrender of Cornwallis. He was made a member of the Continental Congress from 1785 to 1787, becoming president in the latter year. In 1788 he became the first Governor of the Northwestern Territory, which position he held until 1802. Meanwhile, becoming, in 1791, Commander-in-Chief of the Army, he sent an expedition against the Miami Indians which ended in a disastrous rout of his forces. A committee of investigators, appointed by Congress, exonerated him but he resigned his command in May 1792. His last years were spent in poverty and obscurity.

Lafayette was born in the Castle of Chavagnac, Department of Upper Loire on September 6, 1757. So much has been written about this great Frenchman that little needs to be said here. The esteem and affection that he had, and still holds, with the people of this country may be appreciated in noting that there are sixteen towns, cities, counties, or parishes named after this gallant officer. Briefly, he became a soldier at an early age and came to America in 1777 to take part with the Colonists in their War of Independence. The friendship of Washington exercised a great influence over the development of his mind and the formation of his opinion. The declaration of war between France and England gave him an opportunity of aiding this country effectually by returning to France where he was received with great honor. He again repaired to America in 1780 and was invested, by the Congress, with the defense of Virginia. On his third visit to America, in 1784, he was received in such manner that his tour became a continual triumph. His fourth, and last, visit to this country was in 1824 when he came over, by invitation of the Congress, who voted him a grant of \$200,000 and a township of land.

Lafayette's first service in battle was at Brandywine, where he was wounded. His bravery, skill and coolness were immediately conspicuous. Late in 1777 a cabal was formed in Congress in which General Conway was the intriguer against Washington, with the purpose of making Gates commander-in-chief. Congress instituted a new Board of War, placing General Gates at the head of it. This Board planned an attack on Canada without consulting with Washington. One of its first acts was to forward a letter to Washington, through Lafayette, enclosing the appointment of the young Frenchman to command the expedition. This was intended to separate Lafayette from Washington. Lafayette wanted to decline this commission and so told Washington who, however, prevailed upon him to accept the appointment for patriotic reasons and Lafayette set off for Albany to assume command. But the plans of the Board of War were not carried out. There was no army in Albany to command and Lafayette returned to rejoin Wash-



STEUBEN

ington at Valley Forge. Sparks, in his "Life of Washington", observes "It must be here recorded to the honor of Lafayette—if, indeed, his whole career in America was not a noble monument to his honor, his generosity and unwavering fidelity to every trust imposed—that from the very first he resisted every attempt that was made by the flatteries of Conway and the artifices of others to bring him into the league."

Baron Frederick William Augustus Steuben was born in Magdeburg, Prussia in 1730. Educated at the Jesuits College on Niesse and Breslau, he served as a volunteer under his father at the Siege of Prague. He was appointed Cadet of Infantry and in 1758 had risen to the rank of Adjutant-General. Wounded in the Battle of Kunersdorf in 1761, he was conducted, as a prisoner of war, to St. Petersburg, but was shortly released. At the close of the Seven Years War he traveled extensively in Europe and, during a visit to Paris, became interested in the American Revolution and was invited by Count St. Germain to go to America. Arriving at Portsmouth, Va. in December of 1777, he offered his services to General Washington and joined the Army at Valley Forge when it was in the most deplorable condition. Von Steuben was appointed Inspector-General with instructions to prepare a

manual of tactics for the Army, remodel its organization and to improve discipline. He was one of the officers who composed the court-martial of Major Andre in September 1780. A year later he was on the staff of Lafayette at the Siege of Yorktown.

As generous in character as he was capable as an officer, Von Steuben spent his whole fortune in clothing his men. Congress made tardy reparation and in 1790 voted him an annuity of \$2,500. and a township of land in the State of New York—both of which he divided with his fellow officers. He died on his estate near Utica in 1794.

A summary of Washington's generals would not be complete without extolling Major-General Greene. The American Universal Cyclopædia, in reviewing Greene's history, states in a single paragraph, that "Greene was one of the very best generals in the War of Independence, second, perhaps, only to Washington, whose intimate friend he was". Nathaniel Greene was born in Potowhommet, R. I., in 1742. Son of a leading preacher among Quakers, he had a very modest education but gained considerable knowledge of ancient and English history by his own perseverance. In 1770 he was chosen a member of the Rhode Island Assembly and, to the great scandal of his fellow Quakers, was among the first to engage in the military exercises preparatory to resisting the Mother Country. He enlisted as a private in 1774 and in 1775 was appointed to the command of the Rhode Island contingent to the Army at Boston with the rank of Brigadier General. He was promoted, the same year, to Major General and distinguished himself at the battles of Trenton and Princeton. At the Battle of Brandywine, he commanded a division and, by skillful movement, saved the American army from utter destruction. In 1780 he succeeded Gates in command of the Army of the South. Gates had been completely defeated by Lord Cornwallis and Greene found the army in wretched state and, accordingly, remained on the defensive for the remainder of the year. In 1781 he had a successful skirmish with an English detachment, but, drawing upon himself the whole army of Cornwallis, though much superior in numbers, made a masterly and successful retreat. With 5,000 new recruits he finally defeated the English at Eutaw Springs—the hardest fought field in the Revolution—thus putting an end to the war in South Carolina. Congress presented him with a medal in honor of this battle and the Carolinas and Georgia made him valuable grants of lands. In 1785 he retired, with his family, to his estate in Georgia amidst many testimonials of public admiration. He died of a sun-stroke in 1786.

Anthony Wayne was born in Chester County in 1745 and performed brilliantly throughout his entire service. (Note: Wayne was a Major General although listed with the Brigadier Generals at the front of the pew screens in the Washington Memorial Chapel). He served with distinction at Three Rivers (Prov. of Quebec); Ticonderoga, Brandywine, led the attack at the Battle of Germantown; captured supplies for the distressed army at Valley Forge; distinguished himself at Monmouth, but his most brilliant victory of the war was achieved in the storming of Stony Point (a small rocky promontory on the right bank of the Hudson river). His courage and skill saved Lafayette in Virginia in 1780. He aided in the Siege of Yorktown in 1781 and, at the close of the war, he was rewarded by popular enthusiasm because of his dash and audacity and acquired the sobriquet of "Mad Anthony". He retired to his farm in Waynesborough near Valley Forge and engaged in promoting the construction of roads and canals. In 1792 he commanded a successful expedition against the Indians of the Northwestern Territories, where he remained until 1796 as U.S. Commissioner. He died at the garrison at Presque Isle (Erie) in December 1796.

We do not hear, nor see, very many references to Major General John





MAJOR GENERAL JOHN SULLIVAN

Sullivan, although The Valley Forge Park Commission does designate the site of Sullivan's bridge on its diagram of the Park. The location is on the banks of the Schuylkill River, close to, but a little west of the Washington Memorial Churchyard. Sullivan was born in Maine in 1740. A successful lawyer and member of the First Continental Congress, he ranks among the ablest leaders of the American armies. He served with distinction in the Siege of Boston; the Battle of Long Island; battles of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine and Germantown. In 1778 Washington and Count d'Estaing arranged for the French fleet to attack the British near Rhode Island and Sullivan was sent, with a large force, to co-operate in besieging Newport. On the appointed day for the combined attack, a violent storm so shattered the French vessels that they withdrew from the contest. After defeating the British in one engagement, the American forces retired. In 1779 Sullivan was sent with a large force into western New York to avenge the hords of Indians and Tories who had massacred the inhabitants of the Wyoming and Cherry Valleys. In 1780 the General resigned his commission and retired to New Hampshire to resume his practice of law.

Stirling and Knox bring up the last of the Major Generals who served with Washington at Valley Forge and, co-incidentally, their paths paralleled one another to a very marked extent—although, in age, Stirling was senior by almost twenty-five years. Born in 1726 in New York, Stirling was in the French-Indian War as Commissary and Aid-de-Camp. He was appointed Colonel at the start of the Revolution, taken prisoner by Cornwallis at the



### GENERAL HENRY KNOX

Battle of Long Island and later exchanged. He fought at Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth. In 1781 he was in command of the Northern Army and stationed at Albany. He died in 1783 from an attack of the gout. Distinguished for his great intrepidity, his bravery at times amounted to rashness. A staunch patriot and a very respected officer, it was through Stirling that the Conway cabal was discovered. His former headquarters at Valley Forge still stands.

Henry Knox was born in Boston in 1750. He participated in nearly every important engagement in the Revolution. He was present at the Battle of Bunker Hill as an aid to General Artemas Ward and soon afterwards joined a regiment of artillery in New York. He took part in the campaign in New Jersey, where, by skillful handling of his artillery, he prevented Cornwallis from passing the Assunpink River (near Mercerville, N. J.) and the following day, January 8, 1777, took part in the engagement at Princeton. He was promoted to Brigadier General and fought in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth and the Siege of Yorktown. He was made a Major General and, after hostilities had ceased, he superintended the disbandment of the army. In 1783, at the instigation of General Knox, a group of Revolutionary officers founded "The Society of Cincinnati" to perpetuate their mutual friendship and to assist such officers and their families as were in need of it. He was appointed this country's first Secretary of War when Washington took office on April 30, 1789.

There is one name that does not appear among the many commemoratives at the Washington Memorial Chapel—the name of Benedict Arnold. In the

latter part of May 1778, a few weeks prior to the Army's departure from Valley Forge, Arnold did join Washington and, after the British evacuated Philadelphia, was appointed in command of the City. Arnold was born in Connecticut in 1740. Soon after war broke out he was commissioned Colonel in the service of Massachusetts and late in 1775 led a force of 1000 men through the northern forests with the intent of capturing Quebec. This expedition was a saga in itself. Reaching the St. Lawrence river, he was joined by General Montgomery and the attack was made. The Americans failed, however, to capture the city. Arnold was severely wounded and Montgomery was killed. Shortly after this, Arnold was made a Brigadier General and displayed much skill and courage in a naval engagement on Lake Champlain, though he was not victorious. Later he was in the Battle of Bemis Heights (Saratoga), after which he quarreled with Major General Gates who seemed to have been jealous of him. In the conflict at Stillwater (near Saratoga) he fought as a volunteer without command—rushing into the thickest of the fight with utmost bravery. Here he was again wounded and forced, for some months, to retire.

In 1778 when he took command in Philadelphia he lived extravagantly, married Miss Shippen, whose father later became the chief justice of Pennsylvania, and went into debt. Charges were made against him and he was sentenced, by court-martial, to be reprimanded by the Commander-in-Chief. Washington was as mild as possible, but Arnold was greatly chagrined—probably the more so because he had, for several months been contemplating treason. He seemed to have become resentful because he had not been appointed a major-general and had been passed over on a number of different occasions. In 1790 he asked, and obtained, command of West Point—a well stocked fortress which the British would have given much to acquire. Now the treachery of Arnold was beginning to take shape. Sir Henry Clinton, who had relieved Lord Howe as Commander-in-Chief of the British forces, had been in treaty with General Arnold. The plan was for Major John Andre, a young British officer, to correspond with Arnold—both to use assumed Names. This secret had been so well concealed that the Americans had no suspicion, whatever, of Arnold's fidelity. All that remained was to determine the time and means of carrying the plans into execution. This required a personal interview between Arnold and Andre and it was decided that Andre would board a British sloop of war, the "Vulture", and proceed up the Hudson River almost to the American lines. The original design was to meet, under a flag of truce, on the pretense of effecting some arrangements as to the sequestered property of a Colonel Robinson, a Loyalist, who would accompany Andre to Robinson's house which was, at the time, Arnold's headquarters. This design had to be abandoned and Arnold was obliged to contrive a secret interview. On the night of the 21st of September, 1780, Arnold prevailed on a Mr. Smith, who lived within the American lines, to go to the "Vulture" with a package for Colonel Robinson. Smith went over to the British sloop and returned with Major Andre who passed under the assumed name of Anderson. Arnold met him on the shore where they conferred for some time, after which they went within the American lines to Smith's house, where they spent the rest of the night and part of the next day arranging the details for the treacherous surprise on West Point. The attack was fixed for the day when the return of General Washington was expected and there is some reason to believe that part of Arnold's scheme was, if possible, to betray Washington, also, into the hands of the enemy.

Early on the morning of the 22nd. of September, one of the guns at West Point was brought to bear on the "Vulture" and forced her to drop down-stream so far that Andre could not prevail on his boatman to get him back to the ship and he was forced to make his way by land to the British



lines—using a disguise furnished by Mr. Smith and a pass provided by Arnold. Andre got safely within sight of the British lines when he was stopped and taken prisoner by three American militia-men, to whom, mistaking them for British, he inadvertantly revealed the fact that he was a British officer. His captors, on searching him, discovered, concealed in his stocking, the plans of West Point and other papers connected with the proposed treachery which he was bearing from Arnold to Clinton. Andre was taken as a spy to the senior duty officer of the day, a Colonel Jamieson, who, not suspecting anything, wanted to send him to Arnold. Instead, however, he was ultimately sent with the papers found on his person, to Washington. Colonel Jamieson, in the meantime, had sent word to Arnold about the capture of Andre, and Arnold fled to the "Vulture" and saved his life.

Andre, as a spy taken in the act, was liable, according to the rules of war, to be hanged at once. But, considering the circumstances, Washington resolved to refer the case to a Board of General Officers to receive the facts. The Board concluded that Andre should be considered a spy from the enemy and punished by death. The British made strenuous efforts to save him but Clinton failed to move the American commander. On one condition, only, would Washington spare him—that the British should surrender Arnold. This they would not think of doing. Sense of honor would permit no such bargaining. Andre was hung in Tappan, N. Y., on October 2nd, 1780. The entire British army went into mourning for him. A monument was erected to his memory in Westminster Abbey and in 1821 his remains were disinterred at Tappan and conveyed to a grave near his monument.

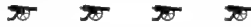
After the capture of Major Andre, Arnold immediately went into the British service and commanded an expedition against Virginia but accomplished little except the destruction of property along the James River. The only acts of importance for which he was responsible were the burning of New London and the massacre of the garrison at Fort Griswold after the surrender. At the close of the war he went to England where no one seemed to hold him in high esteem. He died in London in 1801.

J. T. Headly, in his two volumes, "Washington and his Generals," says of Arnold—"His mind worked with singular rapidity, and what he resolved to do, he urged on with all the power of which he was possessed. His blow was no sooner planned than it fell and, in the heat of a close fight, he was prompt and deadly as a bolt from heaven. 'Shattering that he might reach, and shattering what he reached', he was one of those fearful men in the world that makes us tremble at ourselves. His power over his troops, and even over the militia, was so great that they became veterans at once under his eyes and closed like walls of iron around him. A braver man never led an army. He not only seemed unconscious of fear, but loved the excitement of danger and was never more at home than when in the smoke of the conflict. . . . But his pride and passions were too strong for his principles and he fell like Lucifer from heaven. Placing his personal feelings above everything else, he sacrificed even his country to them. Revenge was stronger than patriotism".

\* \* \* \* \*

When the late Reverend W. Herbert Burk, D.D., Founder of the Washington Memorial Chapel and of the Valley Forge Historical Society, was confronted with the difficult task of finding sufficient space to adequately commemorate the names of all the great men and heroes of our War of Independence, he made use of every available space—including the Memorial Churchyard. There, on the plans, can be seen the designations of the various driveways—Washington—Lafayette—Von Steuben—Pulaski and DuPortail. The various sections of the Churchyard with the names: Varnum—Huntington—Wayne—Glover—Muhlenberg—Woodford—Patterson—Poor—Maxwell—Scott—McIntosh—Weedon—Learned—Greene.

For information and details relating to this article, grateful acknowledgment is made to "The American Universal Cyclopædia, a reprint of the last Edinburgh and London Edition of Chamber's Encyclopædia"—Copyright 1880-1881 and to J. T. Headly's volumes of writings "Washington and his Generals". Vol. I and II. —Gerry W. Cox.



## THE QUESTION BOX

*Edited by* JOHN F. REED

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(Questions addressed to "The Question Box", Washington Memorial Museum, Valley Forge, particularly relative to Valley Forge area and the Encampment Period will be gladly answered to the best of our ability and available resources. Replies will appear, space permitting, in the next issue of *The Picket Post* if received in good time before copy goes to press; if not, then in the following number.

The following question was submitted to the Editor of this column by our Editor-in-Chief, Mrs. Hart, who received it from a teacher at an Indian school. The question was originally asked by a young Indian girl. The question: "What part did the Indians play in the Revolutionary War?"

Unfortunately for the Patriotic cause, all Indians except three tribes and a few individual tribesmen, who had any contact with the Americans were pro-British. This fact stemmed from certain long British-Indian alliances, especially with the Iroquois or Six Nations, dating from early Colonial days; from later British-Indian alliances dating from the close of the French and Indian War of 1755-63 when these tribes, viewing the victorious might of Great Britain, discovered it wise to acknowledge British supremacy; and because the British during the Revolution were able to cultivate these alliances by the traditional giving of presents to the Indians. The Americans were in no position financially to propitiate the Indians by giving matching presents.

Also, Sir William Johnson, who fortunately for the Americans died in 1774 prior to the outbreak of hostilities, and who had been the premier British Indian Agent in the northern Colonies, had through his extreme influence with the Indians, particularly the Iroquois, greatly cemented British-Indian relations. Johnson's death, however, had removed him from the scene, and lesser men, such as his son Sir John Johnson and nephew Sir Guy Johnson, had been left to inadequately "fill his shoes."

The three tribes which maintained a steadfast relationship with the Americans were the Stockbridge Tribe of Massachusetts, and, strangely enough, the Oneidas and Tuscaroras of the Iroquois Confederacy. The Stockbridges, through long association with and friendly treatment by the New Englanders, had to a great extent been assimilated into New England society. As for the Oneidas and Tuscaroras, they had had differences with their fellow Iroquois and with the British.

A number of the Stockbridge Indians actually served as uniformed soldiers in the Massachusetts Continental Line. The Oneidas, after conferring with Lafayette and Baron DeKalb in early 1778, sent 60 of their warriors to Valley Forge to act as scouts for the Continental Army. Elsewhere, particularly on the frontiers north and south, individual Indians assisted the Americans for personal reasons; but on the whole the entire frontier from New York to Georgia was the scene of frequent Indian incursions against the Americans that resulted in bitter and bloody warfare. British agents were active throughout the war, and even afterwards, in fomenting Indian antipathy towards the Americans.



## ADMIRAL GASPARD de COLIGNY 1519-1572

by The Rev. Herbert L. Stein-Schneider  
*An Address delivered on French Alliance Day, 1972.*

We commemorate today, it is true, the arrival here, in Valley Forge, of the news concerning the de facto recognition of the "Rebel" government of George Washington by the court of France, on May 6, 1776.

We also remember, on this day, indeed, the Frenchman who made this decisive political move possible, namely the Marquis de Lafayette, who rightfully has his place among those who contributed decisively to the history of this country.

I would like, however, to speak to you today about another Frenchman whose contribution to the history of the United States has been at least as great if not greater than the one of the Marquis de Lafayette, but who is unjustly and unjustifiably forgotten by the writers of American history. This is the more inconceivable as he was so deeply involved in founding a new nation on the American continent. This Frenchman, who could be considered to be the father of this country was the first to conceive the idea of the American continent as a haven for those who were seeking liberty. He did more than conceive the idea: he actually sent the first settlers ever to North America, thus opening up the way for the establishment of the much later coming of the English settlers in Virginia and on Plymouth Rock. It all happened 58 years before the first landing of the Mayflower.

This man, whose name might not even be familiar to you, is *Gaspard de Coligny*, Admiral of France and leader of the French Protestant movement. He was murdered, exactly 400 years ago, on August 24, 1572, at the massacre of the St. Bartholomew's Night in Paris.

Gaspard de Coligny was the oldest son of a most illustrious family from Burgundy, which gathered the highest honors very much like others gather academic degrees. His brother Andelot was Commander-in-Chief of the French army, while Odet, the youngest of the three was made Cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church at the age of 16. Gaspard himself became supreme commander of the French navy (as well as of the army during the absence of his brother) at the ripe age of 28.

This was only a few decades after the discovery of the new continent by Christopher Columbus, at a time when only the Spanish and the Portuguese were allowed to use the newly opened trade routes; only they could exploit the newly found riches and establish trading posts and fortifications on the newly found shores. Gaspard de Coligny was to challenge this exclusiveness, and to decisively change the ideas about the use of the territory and about its future.

For immediately after 1492 Spain and Portugal had attempted to divide among them, exclusively, the newly discovered territories. A papal bull of Alexander VI, signed in 1493, modified by the treaties of Tordesillas in 1494, gave the new lands and all their riches exclusively to the two peninsular powers, for ever.

These exclusive rights remained intact for six decades exactly. Nobody dared change this fait accompli. When Francis I of France finished the voyages of Verrazano and Cartier in 1524 and 1534 respectively, they were meant to discover the North West Passage, a new road to the Indies by the northern route: The southern route had been given to the Portuguese by a papal bull of 1454 to the Portuguese. These attempts, like those of the Spaniards and the Portuguese, were no endeavours at colonization; they were only efforts toward commercial exploitation. No settlement of colonists, with women and children, had been attempted on the North American continent.



Gaspard de Coligny was to change this radically. For he was not only to challenge the Iberic exclusiveness and with it the papal decrees; he was also to establish the first colonists on the North American continent. Deeply moved by the plight of the Protestants of France, persecuted for their religious beliefs by the Roman Catholic Church, Coligny believed that there was a solution to this problem: these evangelical Christians would migrate to the new continent, in order to establish there a land where they could exercise in freedom and with tolerance, their newly found Biblical religion.

Thus a first expedition landed troops and colonists on the South American continent in 1555, in the bay of Rio de Janeiro. This former capital of Brazil was founded as a French settlement and remained in the hands of the French for some time; in 1557, however, the Portuguese took over in a military operation and the French ships departed.

Coligny did not give up despite this setback: he chose the year 1562 for another try, this time slightly above the military and commercial Spanish lines on the northern continent. A protestant (Huguenot) contingent of about 180 men, women and children, together with three ministers, set out from France on February 18 of that year. They were the first colonists to reach what is today the United States and to establish themselves there. The ships, under the leadership of Captain Jean Ribaut, arrived in the northernmost part of Florida on May 1, 1562 and called the river into whose estuary they sailed the "May River" since they had arrived there on the first day of that month. They established there an advanced fortification which was named Fort Caroline. Moving further north, the Huguenots landed at what is now known as Parris Island, South Carolina, where they founded a settlement under the name of Port Royal and a fort which took the name of Fort Charles. The escort ships then departed and promised to return within a few months. The estimate was wrong. The civil war raging in France at that time kept Coligny from fitting out supply ships. They were able to make it only in July of 1564, more than a year and a half later. By then the colonists had been forced to seek a solution of despair: they had built a "ship" and set out to return to France. They did not make it; some of the survivors were picked up by a British ship in the middle of the ocean. When the decimated colony was moved to Fort Caroline, to the south, the Spanish took this to be a menace to their own position: they set out to destroy the French settlement. As other French ships were wrecked by a hurricane, the Spanish occupied the Huguenot settlement and massacred all those who would not convert to Catholicism on the spot. Thus perished the first settlers on the North American continent. In order to prevent a recurrence of a similar adventure, the Spanish established a settlement of their own, St. Augustine in Northern Florida, in 1566, which is known today, as the first settlement in North America in modern times. This is not true: Coligny's Protestant settlers were the first colonists on American soil.

American history thus should be seriously amended: it was neither the British in Virginia nor the Mayflower in the north who have the claim to priority: the French Huguenots were the first to establish a settlement on the coast of what is the United States today.

Furthermore, it was Gaspard de Coligny, the French Protestant leader, who was the first to establish this continent of America as the haven of refuge for freedom, exactly 58 years before the "Pilgrims" ever reached Plymouth Rock. The tradition which has made America what it is today, namely its creed of freedom and tolerance, was imagined first and put to the test by Gaspard de Coligny.

Finally, it was Gaspard de Coligny's merit to have opened the road to other settlers. By showing his disdain for the "exclusive" rights of Spain to the exploitation and claim of the Northern half of the continent, Coligny

made possible the later establishment, much further north and away from the Spanish, of the British settlements of Jamestown and other places.

Thus Coligny appears to us, today, as one of the founding fathers of the present day United States of America. Through his dream and the courage of his men who accepted death rather than defeat, he has written one of the most heroic chapters of American history. It would be good to remind our country of this great figure and to honor Coligny, together with Lafayette and Rochambeau, as a man who contributed decisively to our history.

## A DIRECTOR'S DAYBOOK

During the winter of the Encampment at Valley Forge, General Washington's 46th birthday was celebrated on February 11th, according to the Julian Calendar then in use. Mrs. Washington had arrived the day before by coach from Mount Vernon, and was pleased by the birthday serenade offered by a band from the 4th Continental Artillery. The General was then given a birthday dinner, and perhaps his wife had brought with her an appropriate cake.

The Valley Forge Historical Society annually begins its celebration of Washington's Birthday two weeks ahead of time when the Women's Committee meet at Maxwell's Quarters to embark on the baking of Martha Washington's Great Cake. The recipe was found by Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower among White House papers, and for some years the Society has offered this cake to the appreciative visitors to the Museum on Washington's Birthday.

The recipe begins "Take 40 eggs—" and all the rich ingredients follow these generous proportions. As the number of visitors grow, perhaps the size of the slices diminish, but the taste remains!

To give a résumé of this year's Birthday Open House at the Museum we would like to include part of the letter sent by the Society's President to the Directors:

"While Monday, February 19 was a legislated Washington's Birthday, a new date for observance, there was an old fashioned, traditional appreciation of the event by capacity crowds throughout the day at our Museum. It was exciting to see the family groups enjoy the hospitality offered by our talented and energetic Women's Committee combined with genuine visitor interest in our displays. It was a great family day! The three parking lots were filled every hour. We really could not have accommodated more guests.

"Inevitably our visitors left with a great appreciation and enthusiasm for the eventful chapter of "Valley Forge" in our nation's destiny. And, they had a good time, too, at our Open House. Surely The Valley Forge Historical Society made many friends.

"To those who were there and saw the happy throng, the respectful appreciation for the surroundings and hospitality, the "Thank you" was evident and more meaningful.

"I wish more Directors could have been present to share in the warm feeling of being an important part of something very worthwhile."

\* \* \*

## THE BROTHERHOOD

Those February and March evenings, as we watched the joyous and steadfast men of courage returning from their years as Prisoners of War, our hearts lifted in pride for them. We will always remember the feeling of one who spoke to us, saying "We were a Brotherhood." Who could ever forget the moving sight of a group singing in poignant harmony "I Believe"? Also, one special memory remains as a beaming officer, black, after the ceremonial welcoming salute, threw his arms around his returned friend, white. These memories will stay with us to knit us more warmly together, — a Brotherhood indeed.

—L.H.K.

## WASHINGTON STATE SUNDAY SERVICE

The 49th Annual Washington State Sunday Service was held on October 15th in The Washington Memorial Chapel at Valley Forge. It was supported by Alumni of the University of Washington, the University of Washington Club of Philadelphia.

Lovely music was supplied by the Chancel Choir of the Lansdale Methodist Church, Louis F. Sloan, Organist.

The speaker for the occasion was Mr. Ted Nash, Head Coach of Rowing at the University of Pennsylvania and an outstanding University of Washington graduate. Mr. Nash was Assistant Rowing Coach for the United States Team at the Olympics. He talked about the excellent speech of Vice President Agnew at the Reception accorded the U.S. Olympic Team in Washington, D. C., before going to Munich. (His remarks will follow.) Mr. Nash also spoke about the ill effects of drugs on young people.

After the Service the Washington State Alumni held a dinner in the dining room of the Chapel. Following dinner, Mr. Nash showed exciting pictures he had taken at the Olympics, and answered questions regarding it.

Remarks by Vice President Agnew at the U.S. Olympic Team Reception in Washington, D. C., on August 17, 1972:

It is a special honor to visit tonight, even briefly, with this group of America's finest athletes.

In Munich you will serve as American ambassadors, and your abilities and your achievements will do more to spread international good than any army of professional diplomats could ever approach.

The international significance of the Olympic games is widely recognized. Yet there is perhaps less recognition of the general role of athletics in our society. As you all know, there are many critics of athletics—people who tend to intellectualize against athletic competition, who see sports as an inconsequential time waster.

Nothing, I believe, could be farther from the truth. Athletics play a profound social role as one of the few bits of glue that hold our society together, one of the few activities in which young people can proceed along traditional lines and where the objectives are clear.

In athletics the desire to win is not only permissible, it is encouraged and, conversely, an athlete also learns how to lose without being destroyed by the experience. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is one of the great lessons of maturity.

Our society has recently experienced a great deal of turbulence. In my judgment, one of the things that contributed to that turbulence is that man's basic need to have objectives and to achieve has been obscured by all manner of philosophic gabble that dilutes his taste for competition.

But in athletics the objective fortunately, is still to win. And, like all of you here tonight, I would not want to live in a society that did not include winning in its philosophy. In such a society we would live our lives as identical lemmings, never trying to be best at any thing, all headed in the same direction, and never striving for individual excellence. I would rather lose a heat or two in a competitive society, ladies and gentlemen, than float listlessly forever on a sea of nonachievers.

Some of you tonight who are here may not finish first in your events. But you will give your very best efforts, and by doing so you're going to win the respect of your countrymen and the citizenry of all nations of the world who will be vicariously participating in this year's Olympic games. And, most important of all, by giving your very best, you will once again enhance



your own sense of self-respect.

And that, ladies and gentlemen, is something that those who refuse to attempt to win will never understand, because they fear to fail. Failure is never good. It's never easily acceptable, but it's better than not trying. Good luck to you all.



## 60th BOY SCOUT PILGRIMAGE

The Boy Scouts chose the weekend of February 23rd for their 60th Annual Pilgrimage and Encampment. Some 560 scouts encamped at Valley Forge over Friday and Saturday nights. They belonged to the Valley Forge Council, which includes Delaware and Montgomery Counties. It was exciting to see their blue, green and brown tents dotting the hillside. The weather was fair but very cold. The boys said their breath froze in their tents in the early morning, and melted later leaving things a bit damp!

Breakfast was cooked over outdoor charcoal fires. By 10 o'clock (Saturday) drums were heard in the distance. Five thousand more had just arrived. A colorful parade, with flags flying, marched up Valley Forge Road, one column coming from the east by Quarry Road, and one from the west via Baptist Road, converging on the Grand Parade ground just to the west of Huntington's Quarters.

In the background they could see Continental soldiers drilling, in the foreground hospital tents and campfire. All were eager to see the Pageant "It All Happened In February, 1778", written by Arthur Spaid, who has produced pageants for the Pilgrimages since 1950. This year the scenes were based on the medical service and hospitals.

Mr. George T. Craven was Master of Ceremonies. He introduced Lloyd N. Armor, Jr., Chairman of the 1973 Boy Scout Pilgrimage; Mrs. Annamaria Malloy, President of the Valley Forge Park Commission, who gave a word of welcome; Mrs. Ferne Hetrich, Chairman of Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and Mr. G. Keith Funk, President of the Valley Forge Council of Boy Scouts of America. The Reverend Sheldon Moody Smith, Rector of the Washington Memorial Chapel, then gave Washington's Prayer for the United States of America.

It was now time for the Pageant. The Continental soldiers had continued to drill on the hillside. Sick soldiers limped in and out of the hospital tents, many warming themselves by the fire.

The script prepared by Mr. Spaid was read outside Huntington's Quarters and broadcast over a magnificent amplifying system. The script:

### IT ALL HAPPENED IN FEBRUARY, 1778

Every soldier in the Continental Army, who staggered in to Valley Forge, December 19, 1777, discovered life in the encampment during the remaining days of December and January, to be one of continuing misery. February was just as bad. The troops were starving. Disease was rampant and the suffering was almost unbearable.

Medical care was so poor, the supplies of medicine and drugs so small and inadequate and there was so much bickering between the doctors in authority, that the sick soldiers received little relief.

Before you are two make-shift hospitals with men waiting their turns for treatment. Some have frostbitten hands or feet, skin ailments, colds, infection from the filth around the cabins and lack of sanitation and the itch, which few escaped. There was no clothing, except the rags they wore, and so few blankets in the huts that the men took turns sleeping in them to keep

warm. Indeed, there was little to protect them from the ice, snow, bone-chilling rain and biting wind. Soldiers were dying every day and not from British bullets, but from neglect by those who should have provided the supplies needed for their survival.

Some good things did happen in February, one of which took place in France. If only the men of Valley Forge could have known of it when it happened, what a stimulant it would have been. It would have renewed their hope, given them enthusiasm and a greater urge to endure and to battle through the winter hardships.

Early in the month of February our country's emissaries were in Paris putting together a treaty with France, which made her our ally, thereby, providing the United States with supplies of all kinds, arms, fighting men and warships.

This great diplomatic accomplishment shortened the war and saved hundreds of lives. At 9:00 o'clock on the morning of May 6, 1778, on the Grand Parade (where we are today) the announcement was made to the Continental Army that France was now on our side in our fight against England. This news came to the army three months after it happened and one month after Congress had received the treaties to act upon. However, we must remember in those days news traveled slowly. It could come no faster than a sailing ship could cross the Atlantic Ocean.

Another good thing of untold value that took place in February, was the arrival of Baron Frederich von Steuben in Valley Forge. Immediately upon his joining the army, the Prussian Drillmaster as he was soon to be called, took over the seemingly impossible task of training the "Rag-Tag" Continental Army. Under his instruction and supervision, it became a strong and disciplined fighting machine, which in the months to follow, not only held its own against England's experienced and better equipped professional soldiers, but it outfought, outmaneuvered and whipped them.

Beyond those hospital tents is a sergeant putting a squad of the more able-bodied soldiers through the drill routine as ordered by General von Steuben.

Probably one of the most heart warming and happy events, which took place in February, was the arrival of General Washington's wife in Valley Forge after a long journey from their home, Mt. Vernon in Virginia. The soldiers were glad she had come to care for their General and help ease the burden of his crushing responsibilities. She was a lovely, motherly person and a favorite of the army. She was affectionately known as Lady Washington.

Soon, after she established herself at headquarters, Martha Washington enlisted the aid of other officers' wives in camp and set about knitting mufflers, mittens and socks for the soldiers.

Today, she has been visiting some of their huts and has now reached the tents and with her is General Washington! You can be sure every soldier with whom they talk will be so thrilled he will forget his troubles, at least for a time.

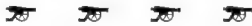
Lady Washington is carrying a basket of knitted mufflers and is distributing them where they will do the most good. It isn't difficult to understand why the men were so devoted and loyal to their General, for he was always concerned about their welfare, or why they were so fond of his lady for she visited the sick regularly to help and comfort them without regard for her own health. (The soldiers leave their drill and come down to greet the Washingtons.)

And now as George Washington and Martha leave the tents, the soldiers cheer. (The scouts applauded.)

After the Pageant a group of Scouts marched into the Washington

Memorial Churchyard for a wreath laying ceremony at the graves of Dr. W. Herbert Burk and of Dr. John Robbins Hart, the two former Rectors of the Washington Memorial Chapel. They were also members of the Valley Forge Council of the Boy Scouts and had often participated in Pilgrimage ceremonies. The Roslyn Troop participated in this ceremony and the Rev. Stanley West, D.D., officiated. The wreaths are very handsome and are a fitting tribute to the faithfulness of these two clergymen in the field of Scouting, in Patriotic endeavor, and in God's service.

(Scouting Trails in Action are expected to occupy Valley Forge Park from May 18th to 20th. On the night of the 19th an arena show will be presented on the Grand Parade.)



## A MERITED HONOR

The Wissahickon Chapter of the National Daughters of the American Colonists had the honor of being awarded First Prize for their Flag Scrap Book in competition with other Pennsylvania State Chapters at the state conference at Harrisburg, October 5-7, 1972. The Flag Scrap Book was compiled by Frances Hammond Ligget of Valley Forge, Flag Chairman for the Wissahickon Chapter. The First Prize was a Blue Ribbon and \$10.00 to the Wissahickon Chapter, Mrs. Lynmar Brock, Regent.

The handsome Scrap Book contains Flag material and a number of other articles pertinent to the subject, all collected by Frances Ligget.

The objects of the Society are "Patriotic, Historical and Educational: to make research as to history and deeds of the American colonists, and to record and publish the same; to commemorate deeds of colonial interest; and to inculcate and foster love of America and its institutions by all its residents; to obey its laws and venerate its Flag—the emblem of its power and civic righteousness".

The book contains lovely pictures of Stirling's Quarters and of a Tea given there in honor of Victoria B. Fisher of Narvon, Pa., Registrar of the Wissahickon Chapter.

The Wissahickon Chapter sponsored a New Citizens' Reception on October 6th at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel following the naturalization proceedings at U.S. District Court, 9th above Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. Sixty-eight new citizens from twenty-three countries and their friends and families were entertained. Flag Codes were distributed to the new citizens. A photographer was engaged to take pictures of the event, pictures which were included in the Scrap Book, also the naturalization ceremonies. Louis I. Kahn, celebrated architect, was the distinguished guest and speaker.

The Scrap Book contains a copy of the Golden Anniversary issue of *The Colonial Courier*, national bulletin of the Society.

Mrs. Ellis E. Stern is first Vice Regent of the Wissahickon Chapter and Mrs. William Lampe is Hospitality Chairman.

Among those attending the 49th State Daughters of American Colonists Assembly from Valley Forge were Mrs. Milton Picou, Mrs. Robert Ligget and Mrs. Daniel Black of Radnor.

The Valley Forge Historical Society is indebted to the Wissahickon Chapter for the lovely Flag for the Blind, a description of which was given in a recent issue of *The Picket Post*.





## HISTORICAL INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY

From the *Reading Eagle*, 2-10-72

*Submitted by Paul Knoll*

The historic surgical instruments and medicine bottles of Dr. Bodo Otto, famous senior hospital physician and surgeon of Valley Forge during the Revolutionary War, are now on display at the museum of the Historical Society of Berks County, 940 Centre Avenue, Reading.

Dr. Otto was a Reading physician and he was buried in the Trinity Lutheran Churchyard in Reading.

His instruments, more than 200 years old, were starting to show rust and corrosion recently and have been restored and preserved.

Dr. Otto was born in Germany in 1711. His preparation for a medical career began at the age of 13. Before emigrating to America in 1755 he was chief surgeon of the District of Scharzfels.

He practiced in Philadelphia and in 1773 Reading, a flourishing settlement of about 2,500 people, became his home.

Berks County's response to Gen. Washington's appeal for troops to defend New York was an enlistment of 666 men and although Dr. Otto was 65 years of age, he accompanied his patriotic friends and neighbors as their military surgeon and attended them in the disastrous battle of Long Island.

Surgical experience and skill were rarities among the physicians available for the Continental Army. Dr. Otto was one of 15 men elected to have the congressionally bestowed title and honor of senior hospital physician and surgeon of the Continental hospitals.

Dr. Otto served for six years of continuous duty, under varying conditions, without illness or leave of absence.

### LATER YEARS

On retiring from the service Dr. Otto opened an office in Philadelphia but soon decided to locate in Baltimore. He was there when the French troops encamped nearby on their way to their ships, and when the Continental Army passed through on its way from the south.

In 1784 Dr. Otto returned to Reading. His son John was a busy physician there. They were both interested in the Reading Apothecary Shop.

In 1787 on June 15th it is recorded in the Parish Register that Dr. Bodo Otto was buried in Trinity Lutheran Churchyard. The D.A.R.s have placed a bronze tablet on his monument.

Dr. Bodo Otto was noted for his faithfulness to duty, for the care and attention he gave the sick.

John Cochran, Director of the Hospitals, said "The humanity for which he was distinguished towards the brave American soldiers claims the thanks of every lover of his country." (*Dr. Bodo Otto* by James E. Gibson)



## COVER PAGE

The Cover Page shows sheep grazing on a hill at Valley Forge. The picture was taken forty years ago by Mrs. Louise Kratz who lived in the area. It is here portrayed through the courtesy of her granddaughter, Anne Bieber of Lafayette Hill, Pa.

Wouldn't our Bicentennial visitors be pleased to have this scene repeated in 1976?





DR. BODO OTTO

Dr. Bodo Otto's portrait presents him arrayed in the conventional Continental mode with wig and flounced shirt, but all the characteristics of the artist's technique indicate the picture to have been painted prior to Dr. Otto's emigration to America. (James E. Gibson) "The doctor of the seventeenth and eighteenth century was a great personage; no one questioned his authority on any point and to his utterances the people paid great heed; while the power of his presence was only second to that of exalted church dignitaries." "The European physicians wore great wigs, a distinctive dress of black cloth almost clerical in effect and carried gold headed canes."



## PENNSYLVANIA SPICE BOXES

*From Chester County Day 1972*

*Printed by permission.*

For varying reasons throughout recorded history, spices have been valued commodities. In the Bible they are mentioned again and again; Joseph was sent a gift of "honey, spices and myrrh"; the Queen of Sheba gave Solomon "of spices a very great store". Columbus was seeking a shorter route to the Orient so that Spain might gain control of the lucrative spice trade. In fact, the history of spices closely follows the story of civilization.

Up to the late 1600's spices were scarce and extremely expensive, therefore only the very wealthy could enjoy the exotic flavors they imparted to the often monotonous foods. Spices were usually sold whole to be ground as needed, using a mortar and pestle. The supply of such valuable and scarce imported wares was understandably kept under lock and key to be measured out each day.

In what were the spices stored?

The "Pennsylvania spice box" provides an interesting story of early Americana. Some of the finest spice boxes were made in the area around Philadelphia, specifically in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Walnut was the preferred wood for these charming pieces although examples in maple and cherry are known, as well as a few rare chests done in mahogany. The chests range in height from a mere fourteen inches to nineteen (about average) on up to thirty or so inches for those with legs or on frames. The arrangement of the interior drawers, from six to as many as twelve, though frequently grouped symmetrically around the larger central drawers and compartments in some of the more elaborate boxes.

Without exception, the boxes have a door, or doors, that can be locked. In miniature, they follow the lines and characteristic detail of the larger pieces of furniture and the brass hardware is scaled to size. These chests were undoubtedly American adaptations of the older oak spice chests known and used in England.

In addition to the Pennsylvania-type boxes there were other means by which the early colonial housekeepers stored their spices.

In New England, nests of small drawers made of soft wood hung beside the fireplace in the kitchen, provided warm dry spice storage, accessible to the cook — on the wall and out of the way. In southern colonies where the isolation of plantation life required large and plentiful supplies to be kept on hand, the commodious sugar chests developed.

In historic "Gunston Hall" near Alexandria, Virginia, two large wall-cupboards flank the fireplace in the downstairs bedroom. One is reported to have been used for the children's clothes and the other for "spices and treats of the table".

Spice "sets" were also known. There is a most interesting and fairly early one in the kitchen of the Heywood-Washington House in Charleston, South Carolina. It is about ten inches tall with a diameter of three inches, made up of six, fitted, stacked sections of a light wood marked for Mace, Cloves, Cinnamon, Nutmeg, Allspice and Ginger.

Many museum and historic house kitchens display sets of marked tin canisters in an oblong tin box or similar sets of wood with five or six small round wooden boxes in a larger round wooden box with a cover. Such sets are a much later development and can still be found in use in many homes today.

The Pennsylvania box, on the other hand, was the product of a skilled cabinetmaker.



The name spice, whether followed by box, chest, drawers or cupboard, has stuck to these pieces of furniture. It is altogether likely that a great many of the well-to-do families in and around Philadelphia did own such pieces which they kept in the main room of the house, stocked with spices.

However, a look at contemporary inventories listing spice boxes and their contents indicates that they were used for a multitude of little things, mainly jewelry and silver spoons with no mention of spices. This is not at all surprising because people were acquiring more and more precious small luxury items as well as important papers. What better place to keep them than in these boxes with locks?



William and Mary Spice-Cabinet, made of American Walnut, C. 1700, in Monmouth County, New Jersey. This cabinet, 32 inches high, is in two parts; the upper has a central square drawer, surrounded by eight smaller drawers, all made of cedar except for walnut face. The cabinet has descended in the same family for nine generations.



## HISTORIC HAIR

*From the Indiana History Bulletin*

Samples of old hair from lockets, hair wreaths, and Bibles are needed for a University of Michigan study attempting to gauge the human intake of potentially harmful chemicals over the last 200 years. This study, under the auspices of the National Science Foundation and headed by Dr. Adon A. Gordus of the University of Michigan Chemistry Department, is concerned with analyzing samples of both historical and present day hair because trace metals in hair can be easily detected.

Meaningful data can be obtained by analyzing hair that is enclosed in Jewelry such as brooches or lockets as well as hair woven into floral wreaths or bouquets. In addition other hair samples that were saved in Bibles or other books can frequently be of use, especially if information is available on the person from whom the hair was cut.

Only a tiny amount of hair is needed for the study and the encasement can be opened by trained University of Michigan personnel. Any individual who can help should write Dr. Gordus, Department of Chemistry, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Please include a description of the item.



## BOOK NEWS

by ELEANOR MARTER FEELEY

THE HOWE BROTHERS AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, by Ira D. Gruber. Published for the Institute of Early American History and Culture of Williamsburg, Virginia. Atheneum, 1972, N.Y., 396 pp. \$14.95.

Students of the American Revolution have long wondered why the Howe brothers failed to restore royal government in the American colonies. Experienced officers, equipped with superior arms and forces, why did they accomplish so little? Why, especially at the beginning of the war when the Continental Army was only half trained, loyalties badly divided, and foreign aid uncertain, did they have so little success?

Dr. Gruber discusses the traditional answers scholars have given this question: the weakness of the ministry, the breadth of the Atlantic, inappropriate military doctrine, the indolence of William Howe, neglect of the loyalists, and British morale. He places more importance, however, on the fact that the Howes and the ministry "were working in separate and mutually destructive ways toward the restoration of British government in America".

"Although the Howes got the appointments they sought, they did not get the authority to negotiate an end to the rebellion; in fact their failures in 1776 were largely a result of their efforts to make peace without the authority to do so. . . . They had no latitude to discuss grievances—to negotiate a settlement—until the colonists had put down their arms and accepted royal government. Notwithstanding their instructions, the Howes were determined to end the rebellion with as little bloodshed as possible. . . . But half measures might have broken the rebellion had not Washington struck decisively at Trenton and Princeton. His brilliant victories destroyed the illusion of British invincibility and ruined the Howes' hopes for a negotiated peace."

This book uses an innovative approach to the old familiar question, studying the Howes' ineptness in the light of their relationship with the ministry, inquiring into the character, personal connection and politics of each and their influence upon British policy. The relationship between Admiral Richard Lord Howe and Germain is shown to be of particular significance, hampering achievement in a mire of false courtesies and vascillating "rules of the game".

Ira D. Gruber was educated at Duke University. He was a Fellow of the Institute of Early American History and Culture from 1962 to 1965 and has taught at Duke University and at Occidental College, Los Angeles. He is now Associate Professor of History and Master of Hanszen College at Rice University.

\* \* \*

CROSSROADS OF FREEDOM, The American Revolution and the Rise of a New Nation, by Earl Schenck Miers. Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, N. J., 1971. 290 pp. \$9.00.

Of particular interest to lovers of New Jersey, *Crossroads of Freedom* covers the complex campaign from Fort Washington, N. Y., to Trenton and Princeton, Morristown to Monmouth, ending with the battle of Springfield and the defeat of the British in that last serious operation of New Jersey.

Mr. Miers makes good use of the diary of Joseph Plumb Martin, a raw recruit of 15 and "a private with the Connecticut forces under peppery old Israel Putnam. Although Martin had enlisted for only six months, the war seeped into his blood and he was still to be fighting after the grueling winters at Valley Forge and Morristown when Washington led his forces to the Battle of Yorktown."

In larger perspective than the accounts of the ordinary citizen-soldier are the records and comments by the generals, politicians and what was published in the newspapers. The human side of the campaign comes out in accounts of war profiteering Jerseymen, the divided families, the outbreak of disease, which racked the ragged ill-trained militia, the hardships, the defeats. All these separate elements are fused into a New Jersey chronicle, showing the colony as the "cock pit of the Revolution". There are several good maps, explaining the military campaigns. — This is a thoroughly enjoyable history.

Earl Schenck Miers has published 64 books since his first appeared in 1936. A graduate of Rutgers University, he was a pioneer in reviving interest in the American Civil War and Lincolniana, and while director of the Rutgers University Press from 1944 to 1949, laid the groundwork for the later publication of his *Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*. Among his historical books are *Gettysburg* (1948), *The Living Lincoln* (1955) and *The Great Rebellion* (1958).

\* \* \*

THE AMERICAN TORY, Edited by Morton and Penn Borden. Great Lives Observed Series, Gerald Emanuel Stearn, General Editor. Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N. J., 1972. 141 p.

This is a very useful analysis of the American Tory problem, its roots in conservatism, its effects on the American Revolution, and the subsequent lives of the Tories, and its significance as seen through the lens of historic evaluation.

Opening with an introductory discussion of the characteristics of a conservative, the editors fit the American Tory into this pattern. Following political philosophy grounded in "tradition, stable law and long-polished justice", the American Tory looked on gradual change as the best way and swift transition leading only to "chaos, anarchy and displacement of classical beauty".

Motivations for the Tories, who came from all social levels, varied from a desire to be on the winning side, to achieve monetary gain, through a respect for the British Constitution and British culture, embodied in the king. Between 75,000 and 100,000 fled to Canada, Britain and the West Indies.

The book is divided into three parts: "American Tories Look At the World", "Rebels Look at the American Tories", and "Historical Appraisals of the American Tories", the last arranged in chronological order and showing a more balanced interpretation by the mid-Nineteenth Century. Extensive use of original commentary gives an immediacy to the presentation. There is an interesting analysis of the conservative viewpoint and its continued influence in the later history of the United States.

Morton Borden is Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He has published widely on the early national period of American history, including a volume in this series on *George Washington*. Penn Borden received her B.A. and M.A. in history from the University of Montana, but was persuaded to leave an academic career to become the wife and intellectual helpmate of Dr. Borden.

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

The young do not know enough to be prudent, and therefore they attempt the impossible—and achieve it, generation after generation.

—Pearl S. Buck, *The Goddess Abides* (John Day)

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂



## TRAGIC SWORD

*(Continued from page 13)*

blocked all judicial procedures at Hillsboro. Armed revolt threatened. Francis Nash, though he probably sympathized with the basic causes of the disturbance, nevertheless determined to support law and order, and opposed the violence of the Regulators.

By the spring of 1771 the Regulators, failing to force any redress of their grievances, and receiving erroneous information that their leader, Hermon Husband, had again been arrested and imprisoned by the Crown authorities, determined to march on New Bern and confront the Governor personally. Orange County drew on all the western counties for support. Cross Creek, in the vicinity of the present Fayetteville, was appointed as the assembly place. Approximately 1,000 of the dissidents soon converged at that point and the march began. Although its progress was arrested and the armed mob dispersed of its own volition on discovering that the report concerning Husband's arrest was false, Governor Tryon, in turn exasperated by events, determined to crush the incipient revolt.

Initially assembling a force of about 300 well-equipped militia infantry and artillery, Tryon marched west from New Bern on April 23. As he proceeded, his force was rapidly augmented to 1,068 infantry and 300 light horse. All the increments to Tryon's force were likewise militia. Among the recruits was Francis Nash, now a militia captain on the verge of his first military experience. The Regulators, apprised of Tryon's approach, hastily assembled a rather disorganized force of some 2,000 men, only about half of whom were armed with shooting weapons, to oppose the "invasion" by Tryon's forces. The remainder of the Regulator "army" was haphazardly armed with more primitive weapons such as farm implements and poles, or with none at all.

The Tryonists presently encamped at Hillsboro, where negotiations were opened with the Regulators in a last hope of a peaceful settlement of differences. The negotiations failing, the Tryonists marched a half dozen miles west from Hillsboro until they met their enemies near the Alamance River on May 16. Despite the disparity in equipment, most of the Regulators, on receiving the Tryonists' attack, resisted stubbornly, though some of their companions fled at the first fire. Alamance was not a battle in the strict military sense, with well-trained forces led by competent and experienced officers facing each other, and with military tactics employed. It was simply a duel between partially trained forces on the Tryonists' side and untrained forces on the other, with the former, better-equipped forces winning. Even then at one point in the fight the Regulators drove the Tryonists from the latter's cannon.

At the end of two hours' fighting the Regulators broke and fled after sustaining a loss of 9 killed (some accounts say 20) and numerous wounded, plus a number of unwounded captives who fell into Tryon's hands, one of whom was immediately hanged. The Tryonists lost 9 killed and 61 wounded. Among the inferior officers who distinguished themselves on the Tryonist side was Captain Francis Nash, who commanded his company with distinction. Although Governor Tryon would offer pardons to the participants in the now extinguished rebellion, he nevertheless set an example of his combined wrath and clemency by trying twelve of his prisoners for treason. Upon their being declared guilty as charged, six prisoners were hanged and the balance pardoned.

With the Regulator cause crushed, multitudes of the defeated forces and their families and supporters fled westward across the mountains into western North Carolina and even as far as the present eastern Tennessee. Most of these men would favor the American cause during the Revolution,

and many of them would form the force that would return east, to northern South Carolina, in 1780 to defeat Major Patrick Ferguson's Loyalists at King's Mountain, thereby materially disrupting Lord Cornwallis's southern campaign of that year.

Some 6,400 ex-Regulators, including their families and sympathizers, however, acceded to a British oath of allegiance imposed on them by Tryon, and remained in central North Carolina. Nevertheless, many of these men and their families eventually drifted westward, thereby considerably weakening any pro-British sentiments they might have retained. A comparatively few ex-Regulators therefore remained permanently in central North Carolina, a small portion of whom continued loyal to the King throughout the Revolution. This small minority loyalty to the Crown, whence Governor Tryon's gubernatorial appointment had been derived, was perhaps a considerable change of heart from Regulator days. This alteration stemmed principally from a continuing hatred of the eastern lowlanders who had supported Tryon in 1771, and who, also changing heart, became American Patriots in 1775.

Some time prior to the late disturbances, possibly in 1770, Francis Nash had married Sarah (Sally) Moore, daughter of Judge and Mrs. Maurice Moore of North Carolina, and sister of Alfred Moore who later became a United States Supreme Court Justice. Two daughters, Anne, called Nancy, possibly born in 1771 and who died aged 13, and Sarah (also, as her mother, affectionately called Sally), born in 1773, resulted from this union. With the Regulator War at an end, Nash returned to his former peaceful legal and conjugal pursuits at Hillsboro.

### III: GATHERING CLOUDS

The brief half-decade between the failure of the Regulator cause that had been drowned in the blood spilled at Alamance, and the far greater event of the American Revolution, witnessed a definite alteration in Francis Nash's loyalties. Whereas he had espoused the Colonial government's cause in the Regulator War without noticeable qualm, the years 1771-1775 witnessed his increasing antipathy, along with that of many fellow Americans, to the British ministerial measures that, in the eyes of many Colonials, were designed to oppress the Colonists despite British insistence that the measures were only intended for the financial support of the Empire. The particular source of contention against the Mother Country was, of course, a British policy that amounted to "taxation without representation," as the Americans rightfully termed it. Francis Nash, bitterly opposed to these ministerial measures, early became an ardent Patriot.

Until 1774 Governor Josiah Martin, who had succeeded the unpopular Tryon to that office in 1771, by reasonably judicious measures was able to prevent any serious outbreaks in North Carolina against ministerial policies. The North Carolina Whigs, therefore, initially experienced considerable difficulty in arousing active opposition to these policies. Nevertheless anti-ministerial sentiment had become so rabid in the Colonial Assembly that Governor Martin, fearful that the opposition virus would eventually spread throughout the Colony, prorogued the usual meeting time of the Assembly in 1774 until March. Although he permitted the Assembly to convene in that month, the meeting was brief, since it only proved, as the Governor had feared, a forum against the home government. Before the month ended he again prorogued the Assembly, then dissolved it indefinitely by gubernatorial decree. Martin's careful attempts to hoard friendship with the dissident Colonists thus ended disastrously.

Shortly thereafter events in Boston stirred uninhibited anger not only in anti-ministerial but also in heretofore uncommitted political circles throughout North Carolina. Boston was occupied by British troops. The Boston

Port Bill closing that harbor to trade, the Massachusetts Regulating Act which mostly negated that Colony's charter, and the New England Restraining Act inhibiting maritime trade in that whole area, were in effect. Patriotic North Carolinians, as throughout the Colonies, joined in relief measures for the suffering Boston populace. Money, food and clothing were forwarded via ship to the stricken inhabitants of the blockaded city. Throughout the Colonies increasingly bitter expressions were voiced against the British Ministry.

These events in New England induced North Carolina Patriots to propose a General Convention to convene at New Bern on August 25 and consider the Colony's present and future position in the quarrel with the Mother Country. Although Governor Martin, on the 13th of the month, issued a formal proclamation forbidding the meeting, the Convention, ignoring his prohibition, met as proposed, and though asserting continued allegiance to the King, nevertheless publicly reprobated the ministerial measures, officially proclaimed sympathy for Massachusetts, signed a non-importation agreement with the other Colonies against England, and approved a proposed meeting of a General Colonial Congress in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in September. In an effort to counteract the Convention's policies, Governor Martin hastily reconvened the Assembly; but since the membership of both bodies was essentially the same, the Assembly simply ratified the Convention's resolves.

The First Continental Congress met at Carpenter's Hall, Philadelphia, on September 5. All the Colonies were represented at the opening session except North Carolina and Georgia, though William Hooper, Joseph Hewes and Richard Caswell of North Carolina had been appointed delegates by the Provincial Convention. Their arrival, however, was delayed. The principal business of the Continental Congress consisted of petitions for redress of American grievances directed to the King, Parliament and the British people, appeals which would be officially ignored in England.

By the spring of 1775 the North Carolina Convention reconvened and on April 5 approved the measures promulgated by the Continental Congress the previous fall. By May a permanent Provincial Congress had been organized to succeed the Crown government of the Colony. Thus the Colony, at least until the present disruptions were either settled by restored amicable relations with Great Britain or by some other means, initially sustained a dual government: the shadow government of Governor Martin and the *de facto* government of the Provincial Congress.

By late May, 1775, the news of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, in Massachusetts, had spread to the southernmost Colonies. The time had arrived for men to choose sides in a contest that was no longer merely vocal. Blood had been shed. Nevertheless few men in America yet desired more than a redress of Colonial grievances. Small thought, except among a few radicals such as Sam Adams of Massachusetts, was as yet meditated on American independence. In fact, most Colonials still rather vehemently rejected any idea of severing British allegiance despite the recent events in Massachusetts. Francis Nash agreed with this non-radical course.

Nevertheless Nash was not only presently speculating on the measures to be taken by the Colonies in an effort to divert British Colonial policy into more benevolent channels, but also the future status of America should an eventual severance of political relations with Great Britain occur. He was in favor of preparing for such an eventuality if it became necessary, especially when the King, on being apprised of the recent battles in Massachusetts, declared the Colonies "in a state of nature"—i.e., without any recognized government, and therefore alien enemies of Great Britain at least until the rebellion was crushed.



Nash's politico-philosophical thoughts on these subjects are of necessity here elucidated by the present writer since Nash composed them in a rather fragmentary manner on a still surviving, partly torn sheet of paper. The paper appears to be a rough, undated draft of a letter addressed to an otherwise unnamed "J. A." Unfortunately the tear leaves a number of lacunae in the text, which nevertheless can be partially reconstructed.

"What Form of Government(?)" Nash initially queried, then commenced his own answer. "This question supposes Individuals" to begin with, and as the King had proclaimed the Colonies, "in a State of Nature, or it supposes them in some artificial Relation Implied in the word Colony. It seems necessary to fix on the alternative before any clear answer can be given. If the latter," that is, a continued colonial relationship with the Mother Country, "every step in our progress" in the quarrel with Great Britain "must be taken with the greatest care not to violate the Relation." The Colonies must be certain that whatever action they took was indisputably and morally right, yet did not destroy the basic relationship with the Mother Country. But if on the contrary the Colonies were indeed already "in a State of Nature" against their own will, the "speculatist" (*sic*) on a new form of government for the divorced Colonies "is entirely at large" in his ideas but "needs acknowledged principles of human nature" before authoring any "System under Consideration . . ."

Nash then posed the question, "What form of Government is most eligible (*sic*) for a People exchanging a state of Nature," a condition in which the Americans might find themselves should relations with Great Britain eventually be severed, "for a System of Civil Polity (?) . . . If we suppose People in a state of nature we must," though initially excluding "every Idea of Civil Power or Subordination" to any such power, nevertheless reckon that the mutual "affections of the human Mind" for its own kind "are as strong attractions as the Gravitation of Matter. This Fact will be acknowledged by every one who has had the least Experience of human Nature and therefore needs no proof or Illustration."

If on the contrary, men's "Objects were different the Connexion" between humans "would not be very Strong, but if" the objectives were "Common" among men, the connection between them "would be Strong in proportion to the Degree of the Passion" which mutually motivated them, "which again would be in proportion to the Injury" inciting them, such as that sustained by the Colonies from Great Britain. "Human Sagacity would soon discover that abstract violence," such as the recent ministerial measures, "was the proper object of resentment and cause of every Fear, . . . and as soon as the Evil was discovered the remedy would be Sought. This remedy is undoubtedly what is expected to result from" a more benevolent form of government than Great Britain at present offered the Colonies. "Protection is the great End of Government and obedience the means" by which a satisfactory government can maintain itself through the affections of the governed. Therefore "how best to procure this would be the great object of every Ones attention, and the first Thing that would occur would be the Necessity of Communication of Thought on the Subject, that" all interested persons "might avail themselves of each mans Invention—Experience and Enquiry, and that it might be known what could be agreed" upon by such persons, a "Necessity of Convening" at some convenient place "would be obvious." But such a convention obviously could not include the whole of the general populace, but only their elected representatives. How to elect "this smaller Number" of conferees "would be the Question."

The First Continental Congress having adjourned, then reconvened as the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia in May, 1775, there was no legal assurance that the Second Congress, unlike the first, would become a

permanent governing body. Inevitably Nash was thinking in terms of permanency even if the Colonies continued within the British Empire; that is, a permanent national Congress either elected, as the existing Congress, by state conventions, or by the people themselves.

Of course, Nash continued, only persons "who have any particulars which Distinguish them from the rest" of the people at large should be chosen, such men being the best available representatives of the people. Nevertheless "each Division" of human society, not just special social classes, should be able to "expect its particular interest to be" represented, "hence the Idea of Rule by representation." Any permanent American Congress, however, should not be closely patterned after the present British parliamentary system with its absentee representation, rotten boroughs and extensive corruption, since "in England," as a result of this system, the common people were "only equals in Theory" with the ruling classes, but not in fact.<sup>6</sup>

Governor Martin, foreseeing increasing troubles in the Colony, dispatched secret emissaries among those persons, including the small cadre of ex-Regulators who still adhered to the Crown, to rally them to the royal cause. Martin had been pleased to discover that at least a portion of the ex-Regulators, even if a disappointingly small number, intended to honor the oaths of allegiance imposed on them by Governor Tryon in 1771, and would support the royal government even to the assumption of arms if necessary.

Martin also forwarded a secret letter to Major General Thomas Gage, the British commander at Boston, requesting military supplies, particularly arms, with which to equip the royal proponents in North Carolina. Unfortunately for Martin, his letter to Gage was intercepted by American Patriots and, on being publicized, aroused Patriots to such anger that they threatened the Governor's person with bodily harm. Martin hastily fled for safety from New Bern to Fort Johnson, on the Cape Fear River near Wilmington; then, since that haven offered him no assurance of permanent safety, to the British sloop-of-war *Cruizer* lying in the river.

Meanwhile, on May 31, 1775 the famous Mecklenburg Resolves, formulated by a local convention in that North Carolina county, prematurely proclaimed American independence. These resolves preceded the national Declaration of Independence by more than a year.

(To be continued)



## 17th Institute of Rural Life and Culture

The 17th Annual Institute of Pennsylvania Rural Life and Culture will open Tuesday, June 19th, and continue through Friday, June 22nd, at the Pennsylvania Farm Museum near Lancaster.

Seven Seminars are offered, including "Pennsylvania Folk Heroes and Heroines"; "Early Textiles Found in Pennsylvania"; "Church and Meeting House Architecture of Rural Pennsylvania"; "Pennsylvania Antiques: 1973 Edition"; "Pennsylvania German Folk Customs Observed on Major Holidays"; "Indians in Colonial Pennsylvania" and "Pennsylvania Rifles".

Also four workshops will be held: "The Art of Creating Pieced and Appliqued Pillow Slips and Pillow Shams"; "Traditional Blacksmithing"; "Making Traditional Wallpaper-Covered Bandboxes"; "Traditional Tinsmithing".

Advance registration fee for 1973 Institute is \$40.00, including full tuition, luncheons on all three days, dinners on Wednesday and Thursday, and all special entertainment and social events scheduled for the evening hours. For full information address Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Institute, P.O. Box 1026, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120.

## NEW JERSEY STATE SUNDAY ADDRESS

by PHILIP ALAMPI

Secretary of Agriculture, State of New Jersey, at the 49th Annual New Jersey State Commemorative Service, Washington Memorial Chapel, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, January 16, 1972.

The Governor of New Jersey, William T. Cahill, regrets that he was unable to accept the kind invitation to him to be here today. As his representative, I bring you the greetings and best wishes of Governor Cahill and the people of New Jersey.

Separated by a river, but tied by blood and friendship, ferries and bridges, commerce and industry, New Jersey and Pennsylvania have long maintained a close relationship. The cold, dark days that Jerseymen shared with Pennsylvanians and other revolutionaries here in Valley Forge nearly two hundred years ago helped cement a partnership that has remained. It is indeed fitting that the Daughters of the American Revolution should participate as they do in this New Jersey State Commemorative Service.

You might expect the Secretary of Agriculture to bring up the subject of farming, even on an occasion like this. We are in Quaker country, and it was the Quakers who had an early idea of the importance of agricultural education. William Penn not only owned property in Pennsylvania, but also in southern New Jersey. In Salem County we have Lower Penns Neck Township, Penns Grove, Pennsville and Penn Beach. At one time William Penn wrote to his wife the following: "I recommend the useful parts of mathematics, as building houses or ships, measuring, surveying, navigation; but agriculture especially. Let my children be husbandmen and housewives. It is industrious, healthy and honest." It has been said that William Penn's statement is perhaps one of the earliest acknowledgments that agriculture was worthy of recognition on the same basis as a science or profession.

New Jersey's agriculture became especially important during the Revolution. As the scene of major battles and occupied by the contending troops, its food, feed and fiber contributed much to the armies and to centers of population.

It is appropriate today that we should commemorate not only those of our ancestors who suffered here in Valley Forge, but also those who provided supplies to the survivors to help them in their successful efforts to achieve liberty.

We owe an enormous debt to those whom we commemorate today. What they did helped launch the United States of America, one of the oldest continuous governments in the world. Without their tenacity and their stubborn bravery, our nation might be very different.

Many of you here today are descended from the American revolutionaries. You are rightly proud of that fact. I do not have the same background. However, I am proud that the kind of nation that developed from the efforts of those American revolutionaries attracted and welcomed my parents, just as it attracted and welcomed millions of others. When many of those immigrants sailed into New York harbor, it was New Jersey that provided the background for the Statue of Liberty.

As we give thanks for the achievements of the Continental Army, we rightly take a fond look backwards. For nearly two centuries we have benefitted from their efforts.

However, as we commemorate, we should evaluate. We should ensure for their descendants good government, plenty of good food, clothing and shelter, and plenty of open space, clean and fresh air and a healthy environment. Our efforts to provide for those who will follow us can be a fitting memorial to those who preceded us. We owe it to them.



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## VALLEY FORGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VALLEY FORGE, PENNSLVANIA 19481

# The Valley Forge Historical Society

Founded June 19, 1918

Incorporated June 4, 1923



This Society is chartered, perpetually, under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as a non-profit, educational organization, engaged in an important Americanization work.

Through its by-laws contributors of \$200 or more are designated as Perpetual Patrons. Life Members are elected on payment of \$100.00. Sustaining Members pay \$25.00 per year. Active Members pay \$7.50 per year, husband and wife pay \$10.00 per year. No initiation fee. The annual meeting is held in October and stated meetings of the Board of Directors are scheduled bi-monthly.

Any patriotic citizen is eligible to membership. If you are not a member of the Valley Forge Historical Society you are urged to join. Send in the application printed below with a check for annual dues or a Life Membership. If you are a member in good standing please pass on this copy of the application to a prospect.

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